

BAY AREA REPORTER

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TELEPHONE: 415/861-5019



A Rose is A Rose is A Rose and a holiday hug adds a rosy glow on a chilly holiday evening out on Market Street. (Photo: Rink)

Sacramento Gays Volunteer for Nation's First AIDS Blood Test

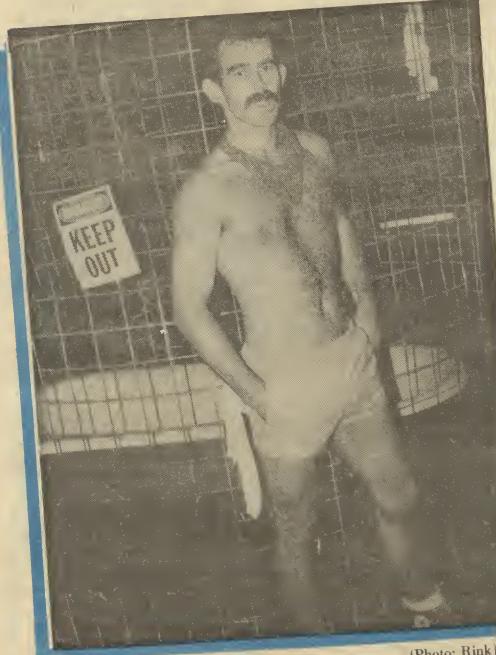
UC-Davis Screens Gay Men, Blood Bank, Hemophiliacs; River City AIDS Foundation Urges Caution in Program

by Brian Jones

The "AIDS test" is a reality. The University of California-Davis has become the first facility in the nation to make the controversial blood test generally available. This month, a group of 20 Gay volunteers in Sacramento received results of the first batch of blood tests.

The test is designed to detect antibody in Human T-Cell Leukemia Virus 3 (HTLV-3). It is known that HTLV-3 can cause AIDS in otherwise healthy people.

(Continued on page 4)



(Photo: Rink)

Grinch Steals Christmas But Sheriff Recovers It

Gays Excluded From Holiday Service At S.F. Jail; Special Rites Held

by Allen White

Gay inmates at the Hall of Justice were invited to participate in a special Christmas Eve religious service following their exclusion from a similar service for all prisoners Saturday. The service was hastily pulled together Monday at the demand of San Francisco Sheriff Mike Hennessey following several complaints.

The decision to exclude Gay prisoners last Saturday was made, according to several reports, by an unidentified deputy sheriff. Other events for prisoners scheduled through the days before Christmas had included Gays.

Approximately 15 Gay prisoners chose to attend the Christmas Eve service. Among those were Jay Neill, the 19-year-old awaiting extradition to Oklahoma on bank robbery and murder charges; and Dave Murdoch, also 19, who is charged with a Land's End murder last May.

The service was the result of fast and efficient work by Louise Minnick, a sheriff counselor and political activist who is a member of the San Francisco Democratic County Central Committee. Religious participants included Supervisor Harry Britt, who is a Methodist minister; Metropolitan Community Church intern Sheila Harken; and Rev. Chris Cartwright, Tom Carroll and Tom Murray from Dignity, a Gay Roman Catholic organization.

To attend the service, the prisoners had to walk from their cells down a corridor between other cells where inmates ridiculed them with the most de-



Sheriff Mike Hennessey (Photo: Rink)

meaning and dehumanizing homophonic comments. It was sickening that any person should be forced to endure such humiliation to attend a religious service on Christmas Eve.

As they gathered in the room, a decision was quickly made to mingle the ministers with the prisoners in an attempt to humanize the setting. Minnick brought cake from Just Desserts and found soft drinks to serve.

(Continued on next page)

That Was the Year That Was

1984 In Review—Best Is, It's Just About Over

by Brian Jones

Ring out the old year. Fast.

It was the worst year ever for Gays and Lesbians and the best thing to be said for it is that it will end Monday at 11:59:59—we hope.

They let Dan White out of prison. The Governor vetoed our equal rights bill. Five men from Vallejo attacked Gays and one of the victims died—and the Cops for Christ were assigned to the case. Fag-bashing was up, complaints of anti-Gay bias was up, and our spirits were down. Even the Beaux Arts Ball was a bomb.

Through it all was AIDS, AIDS—haunting our hopes and reaching down daily into our community and grabbing our friends, our lovers and ourselves right off the street. By November's end—with one morbid month to go—229 of us had died of AIDS in 1984. We watched the monthly press releases from the local Department of Health like we used to watch Walter Cronkite on Thursday nights, releasing the latest body counts from Viet-

(Continued on page 10)

IN THIS ISSUE

MOST SEX is banned at the baths. Judge toughens his order at request of city attorney. Clubs stay closed for now. Page 2.

DIRECTORS QUIT at AIDS Fund. Their new salaries estranged them from volunteers. Greg Douthwaite reports on page 9.

BOFFO BOX OFFICE for Harvey Milk documentary, amid talks of an Oscar. Tinsel-town tales on page 9.

PARTY PLANS aplenty for New Year's Eve. Allen White has the word on what's happening and where. Page 12.

SETTING THE RECORD Gay is singing, songwriting duo Romanovsky and Phillips. Bernard Spunberg spins their new album on page 22.



Great Sex? Santa's peddling "safe sex" for the AIDS Foundation at 18th and Castro ... but Merv Silverman isn't buying. (Photo: Rink)

Most Sex Banned At Gay Bathhouses

Judge Toughens Order, Gives Power To Silverman; Clubs Stay Closed

by Brian Jones

Superior Court Judge Roy L. Wonder on Dec. 20 revised his court order under which Gay bathhouses and sex clubs would be allowed to reopen. The changes will result in the prohibition of any sex between individuals—whether commonly defined as "safe sex" or not.

Wonder reconsidered his Nov. 23 court order allowing the baths to reopen, after requested to do so by the City Attorney's Office. Lawyers close to the case said privately that City Attorney George Agnost was seeking "a second bite at the apple"—a second chance to ban sex or close the clubs. The thinking was that the political pressure focused on Wonder in the weeks since his initial ruling would prompt the judge to allow more strict regulation—which indeed he did.

The judge ruled last week that the director of Health, Dr. Mervyn Silverman, would be empowered to define "high risk" sex. Silverman has said he considers any sex between individuals "high risk" in bathhouses and sex clubs "because you can't investigate whether someone is wearing a condom—it's impossible."

Wonder's original order empowered the San Francisco AIDS Foundation to define "high risk" sex. The order pro-

hibited such "high risk" sex from taking place in the clubs. It required that the clubs hire monitors to observe patrons' behavior, enforce the rules, and eject patrons who disobeyed.

The AIDS Foundation adheres to a commonly accepted definition of sexual behaviors. Its standards, originally devised in cooperation with Silverman and the health department, were ratified in May at a national conference of AIDS medical experts at the University of California-San Francisco.

However, under Silverman's latest interpretation, practices not considered "high risk" by those commonly accepted standards will be outlawed in bathhouses and sex clubs.

For example, anal intercourse with a condom or oral intercourse without ejaculation are defined as "possibly safe" practices. Under Silverman's latest interpretation, however, these practices will be defined "high risk" for purposes of Wonder's court order.

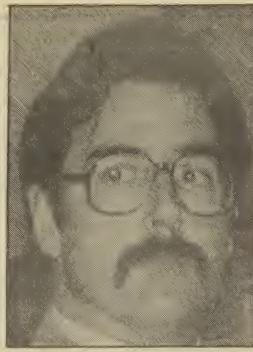
Bathhouse lawyer Tom Steel heaped scorn on the revisions of the ruling. "This contradicts commonly accepted safe-sex standards that Silverman himself endorsed," Steel said. "I think it's pathetic that they are willing to compromise community-wide education, the credibility of their guidelines, just to win a measly advantage in a lawsuit."

Silverman's about-face on what constitutes "high risk" sex may confuse the public and harm efforts to change people's sexual behaviors, Steel said.

Attorneys for the bathhouses and sex clubs are expected to file their appeal of Wonder's order next week. In the meantime, most remain voluntarily closed. Bathhouses and sex club owners voted to keep their businesses closed after Wonder issued his original order, because they objected to having sex monitors observing the behavior of patrons.

Only The Academy and Animals sex clubs have reopened. They have hired monitors to comply with the judge's order.

Meanwhile, the City Attorney's Office has withdrawn a



Tom Steel (Photo: Rink)

controversial subpoena in the case. The subpoena called on the bathhouse and sex club owners to provide all records they had of club patrons for a three-month period this summer.

The subpoena would have required the owners to provide sign-in sheets and cards listing names of all their patrons. Disclosure of the subpoena two weeks ago prompted a barrage of criticism of the city attorney, and the demand for the information was withdrawn. ■

B. Jones

49 New AIDS Cases in Nov.; National Total is 6,931

Forty-nine new cases and 37 AIDS-related deaths were reported in San Francisco by Dr. Mervyn F. Silverman, Director of San Francisco Department of Public Health, for November. This is a record month for AIDS-related deaths, dating back to July, 1981, when statistics were officially initiated concerning this new epidemic. The local total is now 826 cases.

As of Nov. 19, the national total of AIDS cases was 6,931, of which 3,294 (48 percent) had died.

The largest patient group, which totals 98 percent of the current AIDS cases, consists of homosexual and bisexual males. However, according to Dr. Dean Echenberg, Director of the Bureau of Communicable Disease Control of the San Francisco Department of Public Health, a new patient group, "Heterosexual Contact", has been added. These are people who have contracted AIDS through heterosexual contact with a person with AIDS or at risk for AIDS—for example, sexual contact with intravenous drug abusers, or bisexual males.

"Although we have seen few cases of AIDS transmitted through heterosexual contact," stated Dr. Echenberg, "we can expect to see more in the future because of the long incubation period. It is important for every-

Gay Adventists Seek Historic Status For Stonewall

Seventh-day Adventist Kinship International, Inc., has filed for National Historic Landmark status with the National Park Service for the building which formerly housed the Stonewall bar in Greenwich Village.

Bob Bouchard, president of the group, said the building is already on the National Register of Historic Places as part of the Greenwich Village Historic District, but its listing on the register is unrelated to its association with the Stonewall.

The Stonewall bar was raided by police on June 27, 1969. The Gay clientele took the unprecedented step of resisting the police, sparking three days of rioting in Manhattan's Greenwich Village. The modern Gay liberation movement which resulted from the riots is often called "the Stonewall movement" and it is not uncommon to read of the changes occurring in the years "since Stonewall." ■

one to be aware of the ways in which AIDS is spread. It is not spread by casual contact, but in San Francisco primarily through sexual contact. Exposure to blood or blood by-products is also a risk."

Information about AIDS and AIDS prevention is available from the San Francisco AIDS Foundation's AIDS-Hotlines at (415) 863-AIDS, or (toll-free in Northern California), 800-FOR-AIDS. ■

STD Exam, AIDS Screen, At Men's Clinic

STD (sexually transmissible disease) screening, nurse consultation, information, and referral are available daily at the Men's Clinic at Health Center #1, 3850 17th Street. ■

Jail Christmas

(Continued from page 1)

Each minister spoke of the positive relationship of being Gay, and about God and the meaning of Christmas. There were no sermons and no messages of guilt. The group sang several Christmas carols and, to a person, there was a sense that this was their time to celebrate Christmas.

At one point, the people gathered in the room all held hands and prayed the "Lord's Prayer." The group of varying ages and ethnic backgrounds were together as one extended family and for that moment they were all equal human beings on Christmas Eve.

During the service they talked, ate the food, prayed and sang. Only one suggestion was unanimously rejected ... none would sing "White Christmas." "Deck the Halls" was substituted. One prisoner commented,



Louise Minnick (Photo: Rink)

"Isn't that the one where we 'don we now our Gay apparel?'" ■

A. White



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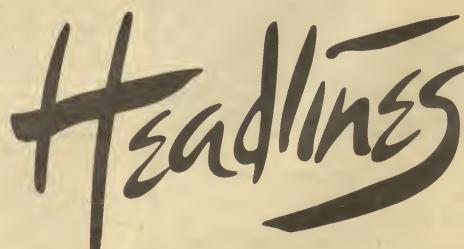
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AIDS Blood Test Begins

(Continued from page 1)

The importance of having the antibody is not known. A positive test result may mean the person harbors active virus which will lead to a full-scale case of Acquired Immune Deficiency Syndrome. It may mean the subject is healthy and won't get AIDS, but could infect others. It may mean the subject was once exposed but is no longer infectious or in danger himself.

Dr. Steven Hinrichs of the UC-Davis Medical Center, coordinator of the testing program, said, "At this point, no one knows exactly what the test results mean. That's one of the things we're hoping to find out through these studies."

In addition to testing Gay men, UC-Davis researchers have taken 1,000 samples from the Sacramento Blood Bank for screening to determine if HTLV-3 is present in blood products. They are also planning a study of hemophiliacs, people with a high need for blood products who are also at high risk for AIDS.

Kate Guzman, director of the Sacramento AIDS Foundation, told the *Bay Area Reporter* that her organization reluctantly became involved in the program.

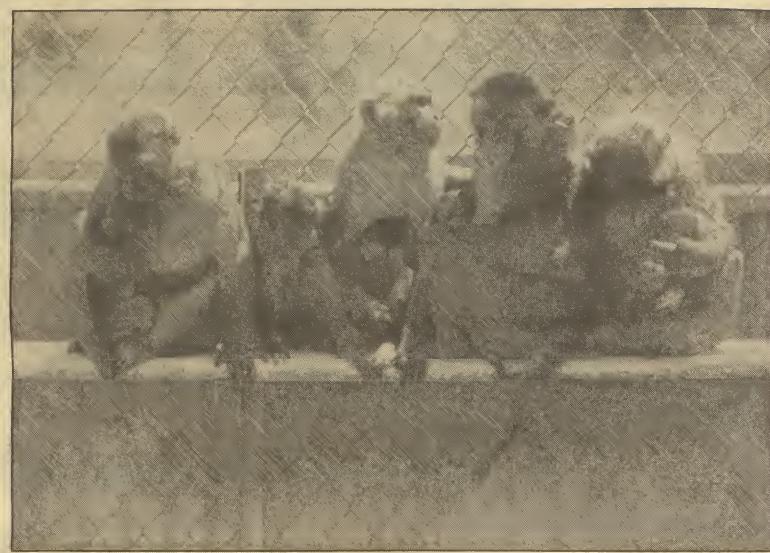
"We're advising prospective participants to be real careful. We're not sure Gay men will benefit from testing of this type," Guzman said. "It doesn't reveal enough information to be useful to the person being tested. The researchers say it will give them information on who gets the full-blown disease and why, which is true."

"But what I'm afraid of, is the people on the edge—worried if they have AIDS. A positive test result doesn't tell them anything definitive, yet it can have serious emotional consequences."

Guzman said the AIDS foundation is working with the Gay volunteers to counsel those who test positive for the HTLV-3 antibody. She said the UC-Davis researchers had cooperated with the counseling effort. "They have a decent psychological protocol," she said.

While the usefulness of the test for Gay men has been one issue, another controversial topic has been confidentiality. There are fears that positive antibody tests—while proving nothing—could lead to insurance and employment discrimination against the Gay men taking part.

Testing program coordinator Hinrichs told the *Sacramento Bee* newspaper that steps had been taken to ensure privacy. "We never know who they are, and I think that's important. We have been concerned that federal agencies might want to



Providing the lead in AIDS research were these monkeys at UC-Davis, where Gays are the latest research subjects.

GUEST COLUMN

AIDS Research and AAV Antibody Testing

by Bay Area Physicians for Human Rights

Recently, the Bay Area Physicians for Human Rights has been faced with a number of questions from various organizations and researchers regarding studies under and planned on AIDS and the AIDS Associated Virus.

It is clear that much work needs to be done, both on the epidemiology and the natural history of the syndrome. Until very recently, the Gay community in particular has been extremely altruistic and supportive of a number of research studies going on in the field. People have given their time, energy, and more money in support of these research projects in the belief that their efforts might be helpful, if not to people who already have AIDS, then certainly to those who might be exposed to, or might acquire the disease in the future.

The San Francisco blood bank is refusing to follow confidentiality guidelines issued in September by the federal Public Health Service. Officials at the blood bank have said that the likelihood of finding the virus is so small, and the number of donors who would need to be contacted under the privacy guidelines so great, that following the guidelines would be too cumbersome.

The UC-Davis team was first to come up with a human test for HTLV-3 because of its longstanding research with simian AIDS. Researchers have been studying AIDS in macaque monkeys for more than two years. They isolated a simian AIDS virus before the discovery of the human T-Cell Leukemia Virus linked to AIDS. The human and simian AIDS viruses are quite similar, but not identical.

The UC-Davis team has also been researching AIDS in cats. A widespread form of leukemia in felines has been shown, in the past year, to be caused by the same type of "retrovirus" which causes simian and human AIDS. The feline immune disorder has been observed for decades and leads to many of the same symptoms in cats as AIDS does in people.

keeping lists of names, including those who may only be AAV antibody positive, is a profoundly troubling one. The potential for violation of civil rights, including employment rights, insurability, and the right to housing is deeply disturbing to all of us. As a result of these legitimate concerns on the part of the Gay community, many of the current studies underway are having a great deal of difficulty gathering necessary data. How then do we resolve this problem?

There seems to be a solution. There is currently a body of law at both the state and federal levels which would protect the subject's confidentiality in any research setting. The most frequently used method at the federal level is what is termed a Certificate of Confidentiality. This certificate allows any researcher to protect his data, and the names of the research subjects involved.

For example, the study currently underway at the University of California at Berkeley on the natural history of AIDS and its transmission has such a certificate. The researchers involved in this study, have assured us that, in fact, they will protect their patients' confidentiality from subpoena.

However, these Certificates of Confidentiality do not require that the researcher do so. A stronger and more protective body of law surrounds an Assurance of Confidentiality. This Assurance may be issued by the National Institute of Justice which not only protects researchers from subpoena, but prohibits them from disclosing identifiable research data. It is our opinion that this is the only guarantee of confidentiality that is acceptable.

We are therefore recommending to any person who may be a potential research subject that they only involve themselves in such studies that have Assurances of Confidentiality. Since the acquisition of research data is mandatory for the control,

(Continued on next page)

Lawyers Give Warning On AIDS Blood Test

Issue Guidelines for Medical Exams, Taking Part in Research Programs

The following is a statement from the Gay Rights Chapter of the Northern California American Civil Liberties Union (ACLU).

With the identification of a putative AIDS virus, scientists have rushed to develop tests for blood that carries this virus or its antibodies. A cheap, commercial test is expected to be marketed soon, although the medical meaning of its results is still unclear. Does a positive test mean that you have AIDS, have recovered from it, are immune to it or are a carrier of it? No one knows.

Nevertheless, public fears have been whipped up dangerously, and Gay legal service agencies have every reason to fear that people with positive test results may lose their jobs or their medical insurance.

There is also the possibility of a quarantine. The epidemic may get far worse before a vaccine or a cure is available, and a quarantine of Gay and bisexual people may be hard to distinguish from house arrest or imprisonment.

The law recognizes some confidentiality between you and your physician, but that protection is more questionable in regard to blood banks and researchers. There is always the possibility of unauthorized breaches of confidentiality. Even more frightening is the risk that public panic, armed with a court order, could force the mass disclosure of confidential blood test results held by blood banks, research scientists or medical laboratories.

The Northern California ACLU Gay Rights Chapter, therefore, makes these recommendations until we have either good news on the medical front or better legal guarantees:

Physician's Warning

(Continued from previous page) treatment, and eventual eradication of AIDS, we are urging, in the strongest terms, that the state legislature and the Congress enact legislation which would allow these Assurances of Confidentiality to be granted for AIDS research.

Until that time, we cannot, in good conscience, recommend to our patients, or to the community at large, that they participate in such studies. We are hopeful that there will be a swift resolution of this complex and vexing problem.

We would also make the point that outside the research setting the laws governing the right to privacy and confidentiality of information are much less protective. Some time in 1985 a test will become available which will reveal the presence of an antibody in the blood which may be associated with exposure to the AIDS virus. Since people with AIDS carry the same antibody, the test is not predictive of those who will acquire the syndrome.

In fact, it may well be true that many people will be exposed, and only a few will develop the syndrome. The exact percentage is unknown at this time. Several preliminary studies suggest that in urban Gay populations the percentage of positive antibody samples has been as high as 60 to 70 percent of the Gay men screened. Since the test does not predict the future, or even tell whether this particular person is infectious, the utility of the test is severely limited.

These test results, contained in laboratory, hospital, physi-

name on it. Who needs the hassle?

The AIDS Discrimination Reporting Project is a study with the intent to document discrimination. If you would like further action you should contact one of the organizations listed below for assistance. These organizations assist people in following complaints according to their respective guidelines and may be able to help resolve the issue or give advice as to where to go for resolution of the situation. It is hoped that in the future there will be a more direct route to address any problems related to discrimination and AIDS.

People with AIDS or AIDS-Related Conditions: San Francisco AIDS Foundation, Social Service Department, 54 Tenth St., 864-4376.

Violence, Threats: Community United Against Violence, 514 Castro St., 864-3112.

Human Rights Commission, 1095 Market St., 558-4901. Jackie Winnow or Eileen Gillis.

Legal Advice: Bay Area Lawyers for Individual Freedom (B.A.L.I.F.) 621-0674.

Some basic advice: Write down all important information including names as soon after an incident as possible. Be sure to include witnesses if any, and remember to keep a chronological report of the incident as it happened. ■

• THINK BEFORE YOU GIVE BLOOD. Blood banks may now ask your permission to test your blood and may soon be legally required to do so with or without your consent. If confidentiality is breached, you have a lot more to lose than the blood bank does. Is your donation worth the risk?

• REMAIN ANONYMOUS. If you participate in research projects involving the use of blood specimens (there are many good and worthy studies), do not give out your name or any numbers such as a telephone or social security number which could be traced to you. If you give a blood specimen in connection with current medical treatment, e.g., to diagnose an illness, assure yourself that the specimen will not leave your doctor's office or if it must be processed in a laboratory, that the laboratory is not given your name but only a case number which no one but you or your physician can identify.

Lesbians as well as Gay men and bisexuals should take these precautions. Tests may give false positive or false negative results. A Lesbian in good health with no trace of AIDS could suffer serious difficulties as a result of a false positive test with her

cian, or clinic records, might be subject to scrutiny by not only state and federal agencies, but also, in a more casual manner, by anyone else interested. Given that the test provides very little information, and given that the potential abuse of such information is high, we strongly urge those involved to consider whether or not it should be done. Considering the current social and legal climate we recommend that the test not be done unless results and patients' confidentiality are protected by an appropriate research study and an Assurance of Confidentiality. ■

Op. Concern Hires Counselors For Disabled

Operations Concern announces the hiring of two disability consultants, Daryl Anne Goldman, Ph.D., and Bruce A. Folsom, M.S.W., to provide counseling services for Lesbian and Gay clients with disabilities or chronic illnesses. They offer individual therapy, couples counseling (where one or both are disabled), family therapy, and support groups. They also offer training to the staff of agencies working with disabled Lesbian and Gay clients.

Folsom and Goldman have had clinical as well as personal experience with disability and have worked extensively in the disabled and Gay and Lesbian communities.

National Gay Task Force Meets With HHS Secretary Heckler

Representatives of the National Gay Task Force, Lambda Legal Defense and Education Fund, and the FARO AIDS Action Council met with the Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) Secretary, Margaret Heckler, on Dec. 4. They expressed their concern that the Public Health Service's access to the Gay and Lesbian community would continue after the departure of Assistant Secretary for Health, Edward N. Brandt, Jr. The meeting, held in Washington at the request of the National Gay Task Force, represented the first time a federal cabinet official has met with the Lesbian and Gay community.

"This is part of our ongoing dialogue with HHS on AIDS and the other health care concerns of our community," NGTF Executive Director Virginia M. Apuzzo commented. "We have brought issues relating to AIDS such as funding, confidentiality, HTLV-3 testing, health care costs, Social Security benefits, and public education to all the relevant agencies within HHS—the Public Health Service, the Social Security Administration, and the Health Care Financing Administration. A meeting with the Secretary was a logical extension of this process."

NGTF had sought for some time to meet with Heckler. Apuzzo explained that "this particular meeting was precipitated by the resignation of Dr. Brandt, and our concern that his replacement be as open to working with the Gay and Lesbian community on the AIDS problem as he has been."

Attending the meeting along with Apuzzo were Jeffrey Levi, NGTF's Washington Representative; Tim Sweeney, Executive Director of the Lambda Legal Defense and Education Fund; and Gary MacDonald, Executive Director of the FARO (Federal Association of AIDS-Related Organizations) AIDS Action Council. In addition to Heckler, department officials present were Undersecretary of HHS Charles Baker and Assistant Secretary Brandt.

"While a spectrum of issues was discussed," Apuzzo said, "one of the most significant was Secretary Heckler's assurance that Dr. Brandt's accessibility and commitment to working with the Gay and Lesbian community on the AIDS crisis reflected her attitude as well. She made clear that whoever is chosen to be the next Assistant Secretary for Health will be expected to continue that working relationship." ■

Goodbye, 1984

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VIEWPOINT

LETTERS

Bopping the Mayor

The Mayor is annoyed with the *Bay Area Reporter*. She recently asked us why we have been "bopping" her. It was an appropriate choice of words.

Year's end, too, is an appropriate time to take stock of the Mayor's relations with the Gay community. Such a review shows there has been a lot of bopping going on.

The Mayor began the year enjoying the support—indeed, adulation—of much of the Gay community. At the Cable Car Awards in February, Dianne Feinstein received the longest, loudest standing ovation. Things were different by November. At the premiere of *The Life and Times of Harvey Milk*, there was hissing from the audience as Mayor Feinstein's face appeared on the screen. What happened in-between?

Let's look at the ledger sheet for the year.

The assets first. The Mayor, throughout the year, staunchly supported city funding to deal with the AIDS epidemic. By year's end, the city had appropriated \$7.6 million to cope with the epidemic. That was four times as much as approved in New York City—which has four times as many AIDS cases. The Mayor has rightly earned the Gay community's support on that issue.

Now, the liabilities. First was the Mayor's disastrous spy mission in May. She personally ordered police to spy on bathhouses, then prepare a secret report "for her eyes only." City Hall insiders know what an impossible task it is to keep such a report secret. Salacious details leaked out. The whole sad episode took on the appearance of an attempt to discredit those in the Gay community who were fighting bathhouse closure. It discredited the Mayor instead. Her remark, "there were no spies," belongs in the Dictionary of Nixonian Doublespeak.

The Mayor contrived another pecadillo in September. She rejected the report of the study group on domestic partners legislation. It wasn't only her position which angered Gay leaders. The manner in which she rejected the report was tawdry and rude. The Mayor's Office secured a promise from members of the panel not to discuss the report before it was formally presented. Then, the Mayor personally leaked the report, together with her rebuke, to the daily press.

The members of the panel—all of whom had been hand-picked by the Mayor—grinned as they felt the dagger of political subterfuge twisting in their backs.

In October, the Mayor put the icing on the cake. The Board of Supervisors passed legislation to counter the efforts of the "Cops for Christ." This splinter group in the police department thinks Gays belong in prison, and it supports ministers who openly call for execution of Gays. The anti-bias bill would prohibit such bigots from working on Gay-related cases. It was a simple, direct approach to an obvious problem.

The Mayor vetoed the bill. She used the same reasoning in her veto message as fundamentalists had in opposing the measure. She said that under the bill, cops opposed to crime couldn't investigate criminals. Former city cop, county sheriff and current Supervisor Dick Hongisto called that argument "silly." We agree.

Ironically, criminal charges against two cops now are pending in two Gay-bashing cases. In one, the victim has said the assaulting officer gave him a religious rap after beating him with a club. Both cases occurred within 10 days after the "Cops for Christ" bill was introduced in August.

While Dianne Feinstein is pondering what it means to be "bopped," she might want to talk to these two Gay men. They can tell her what it feels like to really be "bopped."

Brian Jones

B.A.R.
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You Can Help

★ It was a pleasure to see the excellent coverage the *Bay Area Reporter* gave the reintroduction of AB1 in the State Assembly. The success of this legislation directly affects every Lesbian and Gay man in the state, as it protects our basic right to earn a living without fear of being fired, demoted, or harassed for arbitrary and homophobic reasons.

The united support of the Gay and Lesbian community is essential to make AB1 law. It has been reported that last year Governor Deukmejian received 300,000 letters opposing the legislation; and only 18,000 in favor of it. We must see to it that Deukmejian, and all the members of the legislature, hear our voice on this subject—we must tell them in no uncertain terms that discrimination and fear of discrimination are a compelling force in the lives of many, if not most, Gays and Lesbians. Don't let the politicians off the hook!

Each Lesbian and Gay man must help if we are to see our basic rights protected. We do not believe this fundamental legislation is a lost cause, but we need your action to keep it alive. You need to report incidences of harassment so they can be documented. You need to send telegrams or write letters to your representatives in Sacramento. You need to garner the support of non-Gays and Lesbians to work alongside us. If we don't get our act together, we will be left with no recourse for the blatant bigotry we have all experienced.

Both the *B.A.R.* and Charles Linebarger are to be commended for helping to awaken the Bay Area to this immediate need. If you have been discriminated against, call Eileen Gillis of the Human Rights Commission at 558-4901, or write her at 1095 Market Street, Suite 503, S.F. 94103. Contact us if you can help.

Eileen Gillis
for the Bay Area Committee for AB1

Support and Good Wishes

★ On Dec. 14, the Castro Theatre had a special benefit matinee for the San Francisco AIDS Foundation's Food Bank. Admission to the event was a can of food, and we collected a truckload of food for people with AIDS that afternoon. I'd like to thank the owner and management of Castro Theatre for letting us have their establishment for this special event—they collected no money at the door for themselves. Tony Treviso and the Royal Court of the Mime and Monarch deserve a special acknowledgement, also, for all the effort they put into organizing and supporting this event. The Castro Theatre event is just one example of the tremendous support the Food Bank has gotten in the past year from people in our community. All of you, too many to be named here, have done a wonderful job in helping people with AIDS. On behalf of the San Francisco AIDS Foundation, and the many, many people with AIDS and AIDS-related conditions who have benefited from your Food Bank donations, thank you for your support and good wishes.

Cary Norsworthy
Food Bank Coordinator
San Francisco AIDS Foundation

All Lit Up

★ I attended the memorial service for Dick Zautke last Friday the 11th of December and like most everyone else there, it was quite a ceremony—exactly as Mr. Marcus reported in his column today. Talk about exact, true journalism—every word was the absolute truth of the matter.

I'm a regular reader of your paper and Marcus' column—you know what I mean—the dishing of people and things, informative and always amusing reading. Once in a while he gets serious and once in a while maudlin about some people passing away—

writer's choice, I suppose.

Having known Zelda so many years I had to attend the memorial service; it was heading for a tearful slump—the organist just blew everyone away and the preacher. Well, it was all in the column today.

Best wishes to your staff and for Marcus to continue writing as he sees it. The *B.A.R.*, via Marcus' column just re-instituted my faith in truth in journalism. I think I'm in the Christmas spirit now. Thanks *B.A.R.* and thanks Marcus—you've lit up my life!

Anthony Urzendorf
San Francisco

Marcus is a Jewel

★ I just came to the realization that Mr. Marcus is a serious writer.

Although I've always read his column and admired it and laughed as well as cried with him, this week's story on Zelda Zautke—he got more bucks out of me playing dice than I care to admit at the Pilsner Inn and the old Balcony bar too.

You are to be commended for taking Marcus back on your staff—he clearly obtained the very essence of the memorial service for Zelda last Friday. It couldn't have been more accurate—was absolutely Gay Americana-Frisco.

Would Zelda have loved it? If you knew Zelda like I knew Zelda, you wouldn't have to ask. Marcus is a jewel, and I would be the first to say so but I know I'm not. He should get another Cable Car Award based on this column alone.

Jacob D'Allesandro
San Francisco

Look to the Future

★ Bravo for Mister Marcus—today's column about the memorial service for my friend Dick Zautke captured the very essence of the affair. I'm a regular reader and seldom know the principals of the column each week, but this week—it was perfect. Now I know why he has been voted the Best Columnist of the Year so many times.

Marcus is right. Zelda would have loved it.

Jay Nimitzer
San Francisco

Lighten Up

★ Regarding Bob Woolhouse's really funny story about his visit to the baths in Budapest, I would say that he didn't miss much except letter writer J. Zaugg, whose sense of humor must be totally in the Closet.

Good grief, man. Lighten up. Things are heavy enough without trying to take the fun out of a good story.

Gene Pelotti
San Bruno

Letter Policy

★ The *Bay Area Reporter* welcomes your letters to the editor. Letters must be signed; anonymous letters will not be published. Please include your mailing address and telephone number so we may verify your letter — this information will not be published.

In order to print as many views as possible, we ask letter writers to be brief. To promote diversity in the Open Forum, we favor letters from writers who do not appear frequently, over repeated correspondence from a single author.

LETTERS

Best of Everything

★ The results are in for the 7th annual Best of the Year. Best Bartender: Craig (of Kimo's); Best Disco: Kimo's; Best Bisexual Hangout: Baechus Kirk (925 Bush St.); Best Columnist: 1st-Wayne Friday, 2nd-Marcus; Most Original Column: Sweetlips; Best Letter Writer: tie between Herb Levy and Ed Dollack; Best Restaurant: La Quiche (550 Taylor St.); and last, but not least, Best Newspaper: the *Bay Area Reporter*.

J. C. Cunningham
San Francisco

Long Dong Swansong

★ The ads which you run for the Nob Hill Cinema are repulsive, grotesque, and offensive. Stupid pictures of freaks with long dongos are just as horrendous as pictures of men inflicting violence on naked women. But women have made an issue of this disgusting porn, and I think it's time that we men stand up against this kind of visual junk too.

There's a great difference between cock-worship and this form of puerile penis envy. Gay men have a deep love for their cocks; and such ads ridicule our natural appreciation of real sex. When you pander to these advertisements by publishing them in your paper, you not only destroy the dignity of Gay men, but you also alienate your readership both homosexual and heterosexual. On top of that, you create an atmosphere of tension—the same tension which eventually erupts in violence.

Finally, rumor has it that the Nob Hill Cinema is about to go broke. So, if you've been fronting credit to these people you're likely to be left holding nothing but the paper that these creepy ads are printed on. So stop discrediting yourselves and the rest of the Gay and Lesbian community. If you continue to thrive on this type of trash, the value of your paper will surely collapse.

Robert Cole
San Francisco

Executing Gays

★ I am enclosing a copy of a letter to the Pastor from Duluth, Minnesota. This is in reference to the article which appeared in the Political Supplement section of the Nov. 1 *B.A.R.*

Pastor Kent Harris
3709 Stebner Road
Duluth, Minnesota 55811

Re: Misunderstanding of Scriptures

Dear Pastor Harris:

I would like to thank you for taking the time to discuss with me the statement you made to the Duluth City Council. I am referring of course to the execution of homosexuals statement made in June 1984. In our discussion on Nov. 2, you seemed to feel that the Holy Bible allows the government to execute people who break the law. Capital punishment you said, as we do to murderers. The scripture you quoted, I believe was Romans 13:1-5. Now, I referred to my Bible immediately, The Way—The Living Bible, and a few of your statements are inaccurate. I would appreciate it if you would allow me the courtesy to read this letter thoroughly.

You made a statement to the Duluth City Council to the effect that the Government has the right (given by God) to execute people who break the law, i.e. Homosexuals. When I impressed upon you the Fifth Commandment ("thou shalt not kill!") you were quick to excuse this as this "does not count here." In my Bible, this is what Romans 13:1-5 reads, and I do quote, "Obey the Government for God is the one who put it there. There is no Government that God has not placed in power. So those who refuse to obey the laws of the land are refusing to obey God and punishment will follow . . ." Now Pastor Harris, no where in this statement does it say anything about executing anyone or even homosexuals. How can you make such a non-Christian statement?

I ask you to be honest with yourself and examine your conscience.

We had a minor disagreement concerning personal beliefs on God, Christ, etc. You were adamant in your belief that I, for example, am not Christian, that my "God" is Satan and I'm going to Hell. I have a personal belief, different than yours, yet I believe in the same Power. I believe with all my heart in my Higher Power. My Higher Power is NOT Satan! You also made an allegation that all Jews and those who do not believe Christ is/was the Messiah that they are going to Hell. Now Pastor Harris, these are your *beliefs*, as you told me in our conversation. May I refer you to Romans 10:10-13 which states in my Bible: "For it is believing in his *Heart* that a man becomes right with God; and with his mouth he tells others his faith, confirming his salvation. For the scriptures tell us that no one who believes in Christ will ever be disappointed. Jew and Gentile are *the same* in this respect. They all have the same Lord who generously gives his riches to all those who ask him for them. This scripture alone refutes your allegation. I also refer you to Romans 14:1-10. This is too lengthy to quote here. However, you may learn something.

Another question I have for you is regarding translations of the Bible. I believe you believe what your Bible indicates. I've quoted you what mine said. Now Pastor Harris, I ask you, who's Bible are we going to rely on. Yours or mine? Mine clearly states (Romans 13:1-5)

if a man breaks the law he will be *punished*. You rob a bank, you go to jail. You run a red light, you get a ticket. When it comes to sexual behavior, or preference you *cannot legislate morality!*

I know we can quote interpretations of Scriptures back and forth until we are blue in the face and accomplish nothing. All I'm asking Pastor Harris is a retraction, in writing, on your statement, about executing homosexuals, and if you do not like or approve of a certain lifestyle, *mind your own business!* If you disagree with someone in Duluth, Los Angeles or even San Francisco, *butt out*. It is just that simple.

Mark Angstman
San Francisco

Who Cares?

★ Yesterday I was shopping in the Castro district for last minute gifts and decided on records for everyone. I went to Butch Wax for a fast and easy way out. I had selected one album, when I noticed that they were carrying the new Donna Summer album. I thought it strange that a shop so situated in the heart of the "ghetto," would carry anything by her, considering the remarks she has been making, and the information about the economic boycott of her material in the local papers. I turned to leave and handed the one album I'd already selected to a clerk, and told him in a polite voice that I was going to make a purchase, but since they carried Donna Summer I would not be making any purchases in the store. As I reached the bottom of the stairs I heard a loud, nasal strident voice yelling "who cares?" Well, I for one. And I imagine the families and friends of all the men who have died of AIDS, and all the people suffering from AIDS.

It is one thing to have to sell a product because your employer is so insensitive to carry it, but the attitude of the clerks in the store was really, more insensitive than the presence of the Donna Summer material. I would like to ask those customers of Butch Wax to confront the management if they feel as I do.

And for the clerks who really prompted this letter, your boss can remove Donna Summer from the shelves, but you will have a much harder time removing that kind of mind set that prompted your remark "who cares?"

Mike Foley
San Francisco

Look to the Future

★ As we become more fragmented and seem to lose our sense of community during these difficult times, I wonder if perhaps we aren't overlooking a prime opportunity to bring us back together. While San Francisco's Lesbian and Gay community continues to celebrate its diversity, unfortunately, that same diversity seems to pull us apart. Maybe it's time to end the segregation and provide a place where we can all come together and feel good about being Lesbians and Gay men.

We need a place for the Gay archives, for a Gay library, a place where we can go to exercise, to be creative, to be ourselves, together. If we can build a Gay bank in the middle of the Castro, why can't we build a Gay and Lesbian community center?

If we had such a place today, I can't help but believe that things would be a little less painful. We are all looking to the past right now, and trying to fill a void that we feel. Perhaps we need to look to the future and fill that void with the same kind of love and affection, but in a different way.

Robert Starkey
San Francisco

Warmest Holiday Regards

The following was written to David Bandy Productions.

★ I was extremely disappointed when I first received one of your flyers advertising the party that you will be holding on New Year's Eve, 1984.

It is very evident that the price of admission has always been "extravagant" for the parties that you produce, as is evidenced by this year's price of \$25 to \$35. You are offering Bonnie Pointer as well as *no host bar* as well as some sort of contest.

Don't you feel it is time that you should repay the Gay community for their support by offering a more reasonable price as well as better entertainment? I noticed that there will be another party on the same evening at the Gift Center that is offering at least \$20 less on tickets with two entertainers. I am sure you will agree that this will be "the" party to attend not only for the price, but for the preference in entertainment.

I am so tired of having to spend a fortune for tickets to shows and parties that do not offer more than you can find in a disco/dance bar. "One of these days people will be like I am, and will stop going to such events. That will be the day that you will drop your prices as well as offer top entertainment. Bonnie Pointer does not stand out in the Gay community other than she was a member of the Pointer Sisters. For the price that you are charging, it would be most fitting to offer the "sisters" rather than the soloist that never got off the ground.

Warmest holiday regards.

Billy Huston
San Francisco

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DATELINE: THE WORLD

Homophobia Sweeps Military AIDS Victim Faces Discharge



DION B. SANDERS

In the wake of a federal appeals court's refusal to consider a ruling which ousted openly Gay petty officer James Dronenber from the Navy, another Gay petty officer is also facing discharge.

Petty Officer Second Class Daniel Abieta, who is suffering from AIDS, is facing a hearing in January. The hearing is for administrative discharge as a homosexual, instead of a medical discharge, as an AIDS patient.

Abieta has served in the Navy for 7½ years with what his attorneys said was an exemplary service record. He would be denied medical care at Veterans hospitals if he is not granted a medical discharge. He was diagnosed with AIDS last fall.

Abieta was reported to have told a Navy doctor who examined him that he was Gay, and based upon his "coming out," the Navy is seeking to discharge him under a 1981 regulation declaring homosexuality "incompatible with military service."

The American Civil Liberties Union is challenging Abieta's discharge on the grounds that the Navy is violating its own regulations requiring that a person who becomes seriously ill or disabled qualifies for a medical discharge. The medical discharge would enable the person to receive medical care at a veterans hospital with full health benefits.

The Abieta case is the latest chapter in a wave of actions by the military against Gay men and Lesbians in its ranks. USA Today reported two weeks ago that the number of Gays discharged from the military has more than doubled since 1974.

The national daily cited a report by the General Accounting Office which found that the number of Gays ousted annually from the Army, Navy, Air Force and Marines for homosexuality soared from 875 in 1974 to 1,796 in 1983.

Of the total of 14,311 Gays who were discharged during that decade, more than half—8,151—were discharged from the Navy. 191 of the Gays discharged were officers, the GAO study found.

Bork Decision Opens Legal Hornet's Nest

Meanwhile, fallout from the so-called "Bork Opinion" in the Dronenber case continued to be felt among legal experts and Gay rights activists.

The opinion by U.S. Circuit Judge Robert H. Bork said that private, consensual Gay sex is not protected by the Constitution and privacy statutes. The ruling is giving anti-Gay opponents a powerful weapon to use against further passage of Gay rights laws, according to Abby Rubenfeld, managing attorney for Lambda Legal and Education Fund.

While saying that Bork's assertions were "dicta"—that is, language which goes beyond the facts of a particular case—they already have had the effect of adding to arguments in a case of a Gay man in Georgia who is being prosecuted on charges of oral sodomy.

The Georgia Attorney General's office is citing the Bork Opin-

ion in filing a brief with the 11th U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals in Atlanta in the case of Michael Hardwick. Hardwick was arrested in his bedroom by a police officer who had come to Hardwick's home to serve him with a warrant for arrest on an unrelated charge.

Kathy Wilde, Hardwick's attorney, who is challenging Georgia's sodomy laws as unconstitutional, said that the Bork Opinion "raises the argument we've been trying to raise (on the right of sexual privacy) and rejects it."

The Bork Opinion also casts a new spotlight on the *Baker vs. Wade* case in Texas, in which a federal appeals court said that the Texas sodomy laws are unconstitutional on the grounds that the laws discriminated against Gays by not prohibiting private sexual acts among heterosexual consenting adults.

★ ★ ★



Virginia Apuzzo (Photo: Rink)

Roth will handle most lobbying efforts on Capitol Hill herself, in addition to her administrative duties. She was appointed GRNL director last October.

"It will require superhuman effort, but it's not impossible," said Roth, who has no previous lobbying experience.

"Gay Power" Enters Libel Trial

In New York, the CBS documentary "Gay Power, Gay Politics" was brought into the \$120 million libel suit against the network by retired Gen. William Westmoreland.

An attorney representing Westmoreland questioned CBS producer George Crile, whose production of the 1980 broadcast about Gay politics in San Francisco brought widespread criticism. A successful complaint against CBS News was made to the National News Council.

Crile, who also produced "The Uncounted Enemy: A Vietnam Deception," was questioned by Westmoreland's chief attorney, Dan Burt, about whether the "Gay Power, Gay Politics" broadcast was unfair.

Crile, who is under suspension by CBS News, denied that "Gay Power, Gay Politics" was misleading and inaccurate, and that a CBS executive told him that it was "a sound piece of work."

Short Takes

A Gay man who was refused his diploma from a private Christian college has filed a \$200,000 lawsuit against it, charging that he was denied his bachelor's degree solely because he is Gay. Greg Johnson, a music major at Lincoln Christian College in Lincoln, IL, charges in his suit that his degree was refused after completing all of his academic requirements when another student told college officials that Johnson is Gay.

British customs officials have seized another shipment of American Gay and Lesbian books, in what Gay leaders in Britain are now saying is part of a campaign by the Thatcher government to crack down on "indecent and obscene materials." The seizure of 132 Gay volumes marks the third such raid on the *Gay's the Word* bookstore in London since April.

South African government officials have banned the newsletter of the South African Gay Association under that country's censorship laws. Copies of SAGA's Link newsletter (called Skakel in Afrikaans) cannot be sold or displayed in public, although the group can still distribute it to its members.

A six-year study by a Swedish government commission has recommended a sweeping change in that country's legal, cultural and educational policies towards Gays, which, among other things, put Gay couples on an equal footing with their heterosexual counterparts and to add Gays to existing anti-discrimination laws. The British Columbia Provincial Supreme Court has ruled that the Canadian court system cannot help a Lesbian mother attain child support payments from her former lover. The court ruled that the Family Relations Act applied only to heterosexual couples.



Money for People with AIDS is the aim of the S.F. AIDS Fund. Money for the group's coordinators lead to falling-out. (Photo: Rink)

Directors Resign At AIDS Fund

Switch From Volunteer to Salary Causes Estrangement With Board

by Gregory Douthwaite

The first salaried staff members at the San Francisco AIDS Fund, co-directors Walter Mellon and Nick Weiler, resigned Dec. 5. They resigned only two months after they were promoted from volunteer status to paid status.

The former co-directors say that taking a salary alienated them from the unpaid workers. "The board had prided itself on being all-volunteer," said Mellon, a co-founder of the AIDS Fund. "After getting a salary, I didn't meet them with the same friendship."

The co-directors requested salaries at a board meeting in late October. The salaries of \$6,000 a year each for the two, half-time jobs were approved retroactively to Oct. 1 by a unanimous vote.

However, Weiler thinks the board had second thoughts. "I suspect they came down after that to re-evaluate the decision."

he said. In fact, the AIDS Fund does plan to return to an all-volunteer staff now, according to interim director Ed Jones.

But the AIDS Fund does regret Mellon and Weiler's decision to resign, said Jones. "Both of them worked tirelessly for the fund, and we commend them for their contribution," he said.

The former co-directors harbor no ill feelings against the fund. "It's terribly important that people don't feel there's back-biting and fighting within the community," said Mellon. "My only hope is that people will continue to respond with the gift of love and the recognition of caring."

The AIDS Fund provides direct financial assistance and love-and-healing workshops for people with AIDS. So far this year, the Fund has raised \$75,000 in donations, and given grants to more than 130 people with AIDS. ■

San Francisco AIDS Fund

Income Statement
Jan. 1 through Oct. 31, 1984

	Year-To-Date	Percent
INCOME		
Individual Donations.....	\$ 7,201	10.7
Benefit Donations.....	39,505	58.5
Foundation Donations.....	2,542	3.8
Miscellaneous Income.....	540	.8
Total Unrestricted Income.....	\$49,790	73.8
Special Patient Trust Donations..	\$ 3,975	5.9
Godfather Fund (Ward 5-B)		
Donations.....	13,708	20.3
Total Restricted Income.....	\$17,683	26.2
TOTAL INCOME.....	\$67,474	100.0
EXPENSES		
Fundraising.....	\$ 5,868	8.7
Office, Printing, & Postage.....	2,263	3.3
Rent & Telephone.....	1,341	2.0
Miscellaneous.....	101	.2
TOTAL INCOME.....	\$ 9,574	14.2
INCOME BEFORE GRANTS....	\$ 57,899	85.8
GRANTS		
Patient's Emergency Needs.....	\$19,333	28.7
Patient's Workshops & Retreats...	10,470	15.5
Total Unrestricted Grants.....	\$29,804	44.2
Godfather Fund (Ward 5-B).....	\$ 2,633	3.9
Patient Trust Accounts.....	3,850	5.7
Total Restricted Grants.....	\$ 6,483	9.6
TOTAL GRANTS.....	\$36,288	53.8
CURRENT FUND BALANCE....	\$21,611	32.0

Boffo Box Office for Milk Flick NY Critics Rave; Oscar Option?

Awards, Reviews Laud Documentary on Harvey Milk; It Opens Next Week in 20 Cities After Doing Well Here

by Allen White

The Life and Times of Harvey Milk is surfacing as a strong contender for an Academy Award nomination for best documentary film of the year. The film has just received the prestigious New York Film Critics award. In San Francisco, the Cable Car Awards board of directors has announced the film will receive a special Award of Merit.

Chaired by Judith Crist, the New York Film Critics Award panel is composed of over two dozen of the top film critics in the country. The Harvey Milk documentary was selected to receive an award which will be presented Jan. 27 at Sardi's in New York. This is the first time in five years that the New York critics have voted an award in the documentary category and that, in itself, is considered an important consideration.

The board of directors of the Cable Car Awards last week voted a special Award of Merit for the film. This award is presented as recognition of a person or work of extraordinary merit, and is not presented each year.

The film has received film festival awards and critical acclaim across the country. Not surprisingly, the film is enjoying

its best box office grosses at the Lumiere in San Francisco. Of importance is the grosses being racked up in other cities. The film is now in its eleventh week at the Vandam Theatre in New York City and continues an excellent engagement at the Nickelodeon in Boston. It has now also played in such cities as Philadelphia, Los Angeles and Madison, Wisconsin. On Jan. 2, the film is set to open in another 20 cities throughout the United States.

All of this attention toward the film creates reviews, now virtually all excellent, and begins to attract the attention of the motion picture academy. As the film receives its New York Film Critics award and the San Francisco Cable Car Award, the film will be in Berlin for a February screening at that city's annual film festival. ■

Foundation Seeks Gay, Lesbian Board Member

Vanguard Public Foundation has a vacancy on its Community Funding Board, to be filled by a representative of the Bay Area Gay and Lesbian community. We invite interested organizations to recommend individuals as well as interested individuals themselves to apply for the position.

The Community Funding Board is composed of Bay Area activists, the majority of whom are Third World persons, half of whom are women. The Board decides on 50 percent of Vanguard's funding allocations, making grants to groups engaged in grassroots organizing to effect social change.

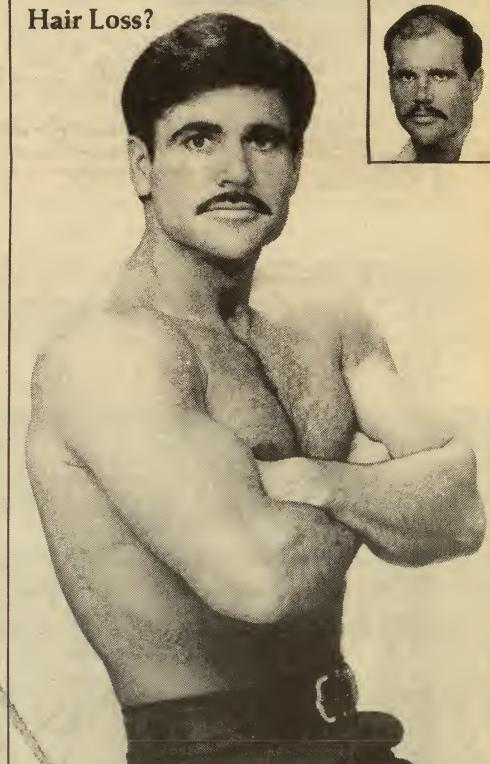
The Community Board meets four times per year to make funding decisions, and holds interviews with potential grantees between these bi-monthly meetings.

Interested persons should call 285-2005 and request a copy of the Annual Report and funding guidelines. Resumes must be submitted no later than Jan. 1. Resumes should include a brief history of candidates' community work, organizational affiliations and three references. ■

Looking at Logos At Jan. 13 Parade Meeting

The Lesbian/Gay Freedom Day Committee will meet Sunday, Jan. 13, 5 to 7 p.m. at the Women's Building, 3543 18th Street (near Valencia). The main agenda item will be choosing the 1985 parade logo to illustrate the theme "Honor our Past, Secure our Future." The committee is now gearing up its many subcommittees for the June 30, 1985 parade, the largest annual event in Northern California. For further information, call (415) 861-5404 (leave message). ■

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That Was the Year That Was

(Continued from page 1)

nam. Our war, like that one, drained our energy, angered us, disillusioned us.

But we fought back—the brightest spot in a dim year. The best news seldom made the headlines. Hundreds of us rolled up our sleeves and pitched in to help people with AIDS. We bought groceries, we held hands, and we cried. We cried a lot in 1984. Thousands more of us pitched in the battle. Our weapons were cans of food, furniture, clothing, and money. Lots of money.

We stood by the stricken and it hurt but still we stood.

Hope, like a bird in winter was hidden deep in the darkness of 1984 and sometimes, just for a moment, we could hear its song. In April, scientists on both sides of the Atlantic announced they had discovered the cause of this thing called AIDS. The crisis changed from a mystery to a problem solvable—solvable slowly, step-by-step, in a matter of years yes, but solvable slowly solvable.

And so we hoped for better things of 1985. God knows we deserve better things. And we may look back on 1984 and peg it as the year that our outlook turned around, the year of the Big Bottom Out.

For now no one can blame us for tearing apart the calendar, for ripping apart this story this review—we would tear it apart ourselves if it would help and maybe it would.

Ring out the old year!

Things better be better in 1985.

This issue, we review the stories from our front pages from January through Gay and Lesbian Pride Week. Next week, we'll complete the year in review from Pride Week through New Year's Eve.

Peace.

**WIRED? BOMBED? STONED? STRUNG OUT?
TWISTED? TWEAKED? LOADED? WASTED?
SPACED OUT? ZONKED? BLASTED? HIGH?
RIPPED? ZAPPED? TRASHED? TOASTED?
FRIED? FRAZZLED? SMASHED? POLLUTED?**

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★ ★ ★ JANUARY

They screamed bloody murder. It was a raw scream, a hot scream, a scream of hurt and remorse and rage. It was the rough edge of 3,000 voices and it cut at the cool mirrored corporate canyons of the Financial District. It was the cry of a wounded people, an angry people.

HE GOT . . . AWAY . . . WITH MURDER!

We're people still angry at the Dan White verdict? You better believe it. On Jan. 6, the day he was released from prison, he had served just five years, one month and nine days for assassinating Mayor George Moscone and Supervisor Harvey Milk.

And people were still mad as hell.

A rally at Union Square became an impromptu march through the most densely crowded streets of the Financial District. Cops scrambled to block traffic as the mob moved along. From the windows of the highrises, from the sidewalk, came gestures of support, yells, and glances from faces filled with sadness.

That night, a crowd estimated at between 5,000 and 9,000 packed two blocks of Castro Street for a two-hour program. Through it all, there was no violence, no confrontation. The day's events proved that we know how to express our rage without hurting others.

Gramophone Records dumped Eddie Murphy tapes after the popular Saturday Night Live comic made "jokes" about AIDS. Murphy said, "Ladies be hangin' out with Gay people. You know what's real scary about that? That new AIDS is scary cuz it kills people. It petrifies me cuz girls be hangin'



Jupiter Has 7 Moons and so did "Men Behind Bars"—plus some—as bartenders presented out-of-this-world fund-raiser for AIDS groups. (Photo: R. Pruzan)

out with them! And one night they could be in the club having fun with their Gay friend and give 'em a little kiss and go home with their AIDS on their lips! Get home with their husband and like five years later, the doctor says, 'Mr. Johnson, you have AIDS'."

Homophobia subsequently was dubbed Eddie Murphy's Disease.

★ ★ ★

There is a there there and there they have more Gay rights than we do here. So learned San Franciscans when the Oakland City Council passed on Jan. 10 a stronger Gay rights ordinance than the one on the west side of the Bay.

★ ★ ★

On Jan. 17, Tim Wolfred was elected president of the San Francisco Community College Board. He thus became the highest ranking openly Gay educator in the nation.

★ ★ ★

FEBRUARY

You can have special olympics, chili olympics, even frog jumping olympics, but Gay Olympics is out. So said a U.S. District Court on Feb. 2. The order subsequently was appealed, to no avail. In fact, the court ordered the Gay Bleep Games to ante up more than 90 grand in court costs.

The U.S. Olympic Committee, it seemed, wanted to keep homosexuality out of the Olympics. Did they ever read Plato?

★ ★ ★

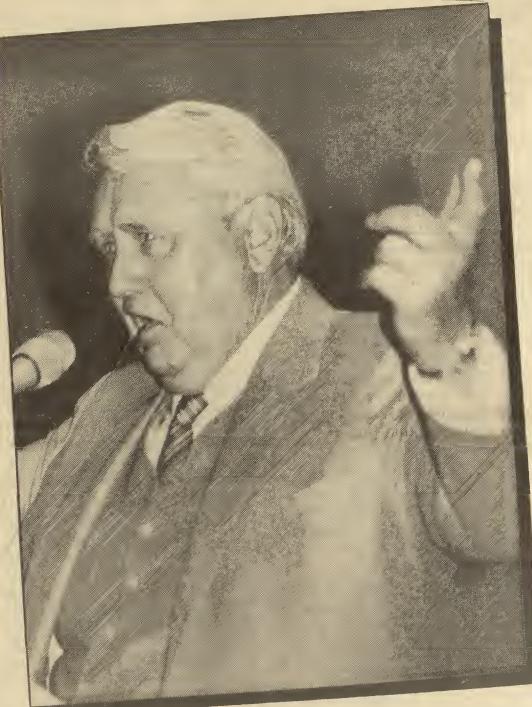
More Dan White news. On Feb. 8, the city approved \$139,000 for ten people who had sued after being attacked by police the night of May 21-22, 1979—during the White Night Riot. An earlier award, and one later in the year, put the total paid out for the police brutality cases at over a quarter million dollars.

★ ★ ★

Squeak. That was the noise AB-1 made as it passed the State Senate with but one vote more than needed. The bill, to prohibit discrimination based on sexual orientation, earlier had passed the State Assembly.

Negotiators for the two houses quickly worked out technical differences in the bill, and sent it to Gov. George Deukmejian. (Insert: organ music playing sound of impending doom.)

★ ★ ★



All's Fair In Politics. So is turnabout fair play. Ed Davis did an AB-1 pirouette in 1984. (Photo: Rink)

MARCH

While the Governor was deciding if there's any bias against Gays in California, a vandal attacked the Gay lib sculpture at Stanford U. on March 6. The attack, with a ball hammer, mauled the recently installed George Segal sculpture. The sculpture, commissioned for but refused by the City of Los Angeles, had been wandering homeless—if sculptures can do that—because nobody wanted the controversy. And what did said Controversial Statement depict? Two women holding hands and two men talking. And a park bench. Maybe it was the park bench, George, maybe it was the park bench.

★ ★ ★

Safe Sex. Interest in that hard-to-define subject packed 150 men into the Cauldron on March 3. Trying to come up with nuts-and-bolts advice for sexers proved tricky business. Through it all, only the standard "avoid the exchange of body fluids" remained simple. There was talk of opera-length rubber gloves for fisters, among other things. The subject promised to get more confusing before the wrinkles were ironed out.

★ ★ ★

The Duke vetoed AB-1, declaring there was no need for such a law. "Homosexuals are widely represented and accepted throughout California's work force, even without any special laws," the Governor said in his veto message. That was news to us.

Assemblyman Art Agnos, who had introduced the bill every year since 1977, said, "This bill was defeated by a group of bigoted Bible thumpers . . . I have not given up on the Governor. I believe he is a sincere and earnest man." By year's end, AB-1 had been reintroduced, along with a report showing 123 formal complaints of anti-Gay discrimination in San Francisco. The Governor said he was still inclined to veto the bill, should it pass again in 1985.

The good news: All of the AB-1 supporters won reelection in Nov. 6 balloting.

★ ★ ★

Larry Littlejohn, a Gay deputy sheriff and one of the founders of the Pride Foundation, pulled the bathhouse issue off the back burner. On March (Continued on next page)



Gays Lead the Effort to close the baths and Dr. Mervyn Silverman happily follows, here at the April 9 press conference to announce "sex ban." (Photo: Rink)

Year in Review

(Continued from previous page)
7, he filed an intent for referendum in order to put a stop-sex measure on the Nov. 6 city ballot.

Littlejohn had been the fly in the sex cream since early 1983. He had frequently written to officials and attended hearings to demand city action in stopping sex. He contended that public education for so-called "safe-sex" was doing too little to stem the AIDS epidemic.

The initiative effort electrified the Gay political scene. The Harvey Milk Democratic Club, horrified at the prospect of a stop-sex measure on the same ballot with Harry Britt and Tim Wolfred, attempted to co-opt Littlejohn at his own game. Within days, Milkers and other Gay leaders circulated their own petition—calling on Health Director Dr. Mervyn Silverman to close the baths.

By year's end, Littlejohn's effort had succeeded and the baths were closed. If the B.A.R., like *Time* magazine, chose a Man of the Year—selecting the most important, not necessarily the most well-loved figure—then Larry Littlejohn would be a prime candidate. Police had been trying for decades to close the baths. A Gay deputy succeeded.

★ ★ ★

Eddie Murphy, loveable as ever, delivered the punch line to his AIDS joke. He told Gays, "Kiss my ass."

Nobody told Eddie that safe-sex was in, rimming was out.

★ ★ ★

April Fool's came a day early for Dr. Mervyn Silverman. He called a March 30 press conference to announce he was closing the baths. The press waited 55 minutes. Dr. Silverman appeared and said he wasn't making an announcement.

April Fools.

★ ★ ★

APRIL

With a crowd of Gay doctors and politicos arrayed behind him, Silverman announced April 9 a "sex ban" for Gay bathhouses and sex clubs. It was

the opening salvo in a battle for the baths which would linger on throughout the summer, fall, winter and into 1985.

But when bathhouse owners examined the so-called "sex ban," they realized they weren't obliged to follow it. Within two weeks, they vowed to ignore the order—and Silverman was powerless to do anything but carry his proposal to the police. The police department, not Silverman, had power to pass regulations for the baths. And so began the legislative spaghetti making which tangled up the issue until September.

★ ★ ★

The *Bay Area Reporter*, using the health department's own records, disclosed that VD among Gay men had fallen more than 60 percent from 1980 to 1983. The statistics proved that most Gay men were making major changes in their lifestyle to fight the spread of AIDS.

By year's end, the VD rate had fallen 70 percent. San Francisco, once first in the nation in gonorrhea, slipped to 13th, and was still falling as the old year passed away.

★ ★ ★

MAY

... Where little cable cars climb halfway to the stars and Mayor Di Fi spies on me (what did she see?)

No sooner had the notes died from the dispute over the city's official song, than Mayor Dianne Feinstein was involved in an equally controversial effort. In May, she ordered city police officers to spy on Gay bathhouses and sex clubs, then issue a report "for her eyes only."

Some details of the report leaked around City Hall, providing more grist for the mill of those pushing bathhouse closure. Several weeks later, the mission was disclosed in the *San Francisco Examiner* under the front-page banner headline, "Cops Spied on Bathhouses."

Feinstein was furious that her secret mission had been uncovered. In a prepared state-

ment, she said, "As to spying in the bathhouses, there isn't any." She promised that the spies which weren't there, wouldn't be sent in a second time.

In the fall, she authorized the spending of \$50,000 for another secret report on the Gay clubs—this time, under the coordination of Silverman.

★ ★ ★
(Continued on next page)



Ugliest Drag Queen of 1984 goes to Marcella, one of the casualties at Casualty Capers this year. Cross your legs, darling. (Photo: R. Pruzan)

Year In Review

JUNE

Perhaps THE event of the year took over two blocks of Golden Gate Avenue as *La Cage aux Folles* opened in San Francisco. There were limos for days, black-tie dancing in the City Hall rotunda after, and \$31,000 raised for Gay charities.

★ ★ ★

On June 23, political history was made in Washington. The Democratic National Committee platform panel approved the strongest Gay-rights plank ever. For the first time, the words "Gay" and "Lesbian" were included in a platform of a major American political party.

After voting on the Gay-rights platform, committee chair Geraldine Ferraro posed for pictures with Gay leaders, including Bill Kraus, local aide to Congresswoman Sala Burton. Kraus was one of six Gays on the committee.

Now, all that was needed was a Democratic victory in November.

★ ★ ★

Gay and Lesbian Freedom Day was sunny and festive on June 24. The crowds were somewhat smaller than years past—but still added up to the biggest civic celebration of the year in



Magical Beasts spring to life every year for Gay and Lesbian Freedom Day—as this unicorn did in 1984. (Photo: Rink)

San Francisco. Estimates of paraders ran from 30,000 to 40,000 while about four times as many were on hand to watch. In all, about 170,000 to 200,000 people took part.

★ ★ ★

Next Week: The national march on the Democratic Convention . . . the O'Connell murder case . . . the Cops for Christ . . . the baths close, open, and close.

B. Jones



Castro Street, the center of the Lesbian and Gay universe, where we're free to be . . . this or any year. (Photo: Rink)

Where to Go, What to Do? All About (New Year's) Eve

*'Dancin' through the night—the morning light
Shines on me, so bright.'*

—Sylvester

by Allen White

The choices are many for a marathon evening of non-stop dancing as the three major Gay New Year's Eve party events announce they will continue through the night until at least 9 a.m. in the morning.

The Giftcenter Pavilion is the location for "So Many Men, 1985." Last year Sanford Kellman and John Vukas presented a similar event at Moscone Center. Kellman is throwing all his creative energy into presenting a diversified evening combining video, live performances by Evelyn Thomas and Linda Clifford and non-stop dancing. At midnight the Giftcenter will use video to create a delayed telecast countdown from Times Square in New York City, while also giving their audience a "wrestling fantasy with the boys." D.J.'s at this party will be Michael Garrett and Bob Viteritti.

At the Galleria, non-stop dancing and the appearance of Bonnie Pointer are combined with a costume contest for best attire at the sixth annual event. A runway similar to that used at Halloween will allow for all attending to compete for cash prizes in the categories of most decadent, most elegant and best high fashion. The party, which will continue until 9 a.m., a first for the Galleria, features D.J. Steve Fabus.

Trocadero Transfer is again presenting the best dollar value with a \$12 admission charge. Manager David Caruso promises no name entertainment but said the evening is going to have many surprises. Of the major parties, Trocadero Transfer has the advantage of using the same facility on a continuing basis. Their years of party experience at the same location give them a built-in crowd and New Year's Eve they plan to pull out all the stops until mid-morning.

Tickets for all three events are available at Headlines and other usual party outlets. The Gift-

center is priced at \$25, the Galleria is \$30 with Trocadero charging \$12. Indications show a high advance sale for all three events and the possibility of a sell-out at all of these parties is a definite reality. Tickets at the door, should they be available are at an increased price.

Should dancing the night away not be your option, there are many other choices. Valencia Rose is featuring comic Tom Ammiano and singer Debbie Saunders in a special New Year's Eve show. The show is going to sell out and reservations should be made fast for those at this party will be Michael Garrett and Bob Viteritti.

"After Dark," the spectacular and glamourous drag show, has caught on at the Alcazar Theatre. New Year's Eve they will present two shows, at 8 and at 10:30. Tickets are on sale at BASS.

For those who want their party time a little more on the deca-

dent side, the 1808 Club starts at 8 p.m. and continues until 5 a.m. Porn star Cris Noll will be appearing through the weekend at Savages in the heart of the tenderloin.

Reservations are already pouring into most of the better Gay restaurants throughout the city. New Year's Eve is one of the big nights of the year and there are special priced dinners and seating schedules.

For those who want to rock and roll into the New Year, The Tubes are at the Kabuki, Night Ranger is at Cow Palace, Huey Lewis and the News, Los Lobos with Eddie & The Tide play the Oakland Coliseum. Junior Walker & The All Stars play Wolfgang's, Jefferson Starship is at the San Jose Civic and Bobby McFerrin appears at the Great American Music Hall. Tickets for all these events are on sale at BASS ticket outlets.

Texans Seek Support in Referendum

"Vote YES for a United Houston" is the message Citizens for a United Houston hopes will carry them to victory Jan. 19 in the nation's fourth largest city.

Houston voters will decide if sexual orientation will be added to the classes already protected from job discrimination in City of Houston jobs.

Citizens for a United Houston (United Houston for short) is the umbrella organization urging voters to vote yes to prohibit job discrimination against Gays and Lesbians.

"The issue on the ballot is job

discrimination," explained United Houston Campaign Manager Bill Oliver. "And we strongly believe people should be hired and fired based solely on their job performance."

The two ordinances providing protection against job discrimination based on sexual orientation were passed 8-7 and 9-6 by the Houston City Council June 19. The issue was forced to a vote when about 60,000 signatures were turned in requesting a citywide referendum.

Contributions may be sent to: Citizens for a United Houston, One Allen Center, Suite 1000, Houston, Texas 77002.

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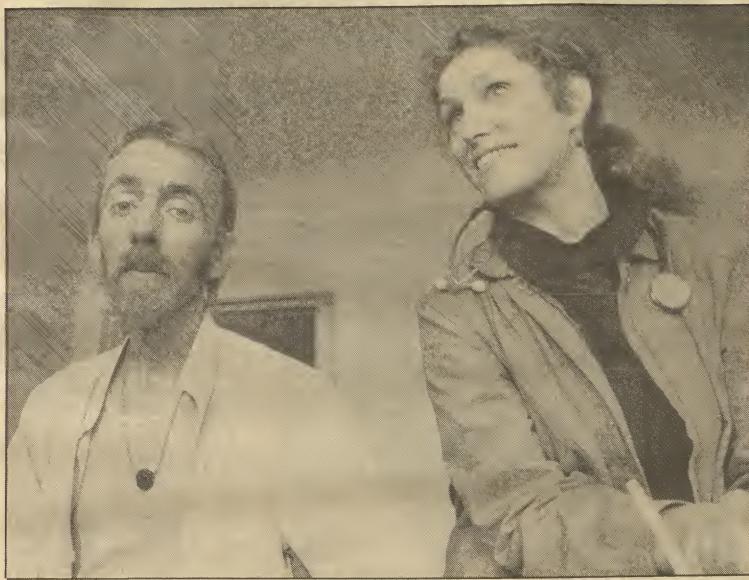
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Home-Based Care is the goal of the Hospice of San Francisco's AIDS program. Cliff Newman (l.) visits with hospice nurse Margaret Walter (r.). (Photo: Randy Dean)

Hospice of San Francisco Joins Programs Helping People With AIDS

Informal Role Expands With Major Grant From City; Services Aim at Keeping Clients Out of the Hospital

by Larry Beresford

Clif Newman, a 35-year-old man with AIDS, sat up in bed for a visit from his Hospice nurse, Margaret Walter, accompanied by a reporter. One of 18 people with AIDS currently served by Hospice of San Francisco's new AIDS Program, Newman lives in one of the Shanti House residences. Supporting Newman in the apartment and keeping him out of the hospital depends on nursing visits from Walter twice a week, counseling from a Hospice social worker, practical assistance from attendants shared with the other resident of the apartment, the availability of emergency help on-call 24 hours a day, and close coordination with Newman's Shanti volunteer and a variety of other community resources.

The Hospice nurse's visit includes the traditional nursing activities, such as taking blood pressure and temperature, and also careful monitoring and discussion of the complex variety of illnesses and symptoms accompanying AIDS, plus reviewing the schedule for more than a dozen prescription drugs Newman takes daily.

Newman quickly fell into a relaxed banter with Walter. "My leg is much better, and you said I might never walk again. I'm doing this (walking) just to prove you wrong," he said, and they both laughed.

Hospice is an approach to the care of people with a life-threatening illness, stressing physical comfort and freedom from pain, as well as providing the support necessary to keep such people in their own homes. The AIDS Program has been a distinct team of Hospice of San Francisco since Oct. 1, although Hospice has been caring for people with AIDS since 1982.

Once the client's physical concerns are addressed, the AIDS team is available with the social, emotional and spiritual support for which Hospice is known. In Newman's case, that has meant helping him face up to the issues involved and his own wishes should his physical condition deteriorate. For instance does he want to return to the hospital for aggressive treatment, is he willing to submit to a respirator or other life-sustaining measures, or would he rather stay home with as much comfort as possible.

Newman turned to the reporter. "I don't know what I can tell you today," he said. "My memory is very bad, but I feel really lucky. I don't know how I came upon Hospice and Shanti, but I feel like they saved my life. I don't care if you're go-

ing to die in six months or in ten years—just to be around people who are so caring and unselfish, it changes your perspective. I feel like I've been transformed."

HOSPICE NURSE

"As the hospice nurse, my job is to try to watch his symptoms as closely as possible," Walter explained. "You need a good baseline assessment from which to compare, and if the client is in some confusion you have to go slowly through the symptoms each visit. I tend to focus on the client's priorities—what he's worried about."

Walter, who has been in hospice nursing since June of 1983, works closely with social worker Kitsy Schoen in helping Newman work out financial and legal issues and in reconnecting with his family back in Michigan. Newman wants to visit his family, but may not be strong enough to survive an airplane flight.

Schoen is also responsible for scheduling the para-professional attendants who provide the personal care, cooking, cleaning, laundry and shopping needed by very ill people if they are to remain in their homes.

The hospice concept was introduced into this country from England 10 years ago. Hospice of San Francisco's AIDS Program is the only one of its kind in the country to operate a distinct team specializing in home and hospice care for people with AIDS.

The Hospice AIDS Program is funded with a grant of \$196,000 from the San Francisco Department of Public Health. The rationale for supporting this service is that home and hospice care can be much less expensive than hospital care, as well as offering a more

humane alternative for the clients by permitting them the independence and dignity living at home that an institution often denies.

'PATCHED TOGETHER'

Hospice of San Francisco and the Hospice AIDS Program provide attendant services to the extent that funding permits, often patching together attendant schedules with reimbursement from the Department of Social Services, private insurance plans, other agencies and charitable support, augmented by volunteers.

"The city's AIDS grant to Hospice provides funding for an average of eight hours of attendant care per client per day—which is simply not enough for a gravely ill client living alone without a strong social support network," said program coordinator Jeanne Martin.

As a result, Hospice has been pursuing fund-raising projects and benefits, in cooperation with Coming Home—a volunteer group of health professionals dedicated to improving the quality of care for terminally ill Gay men and Lesbians. About \$10,000 per month from the community is needed to provide attendant care at the level required by Hospice's AIDS patients, she said.

The AIDS supplemental budget passed in November by the Board of Supervisors provides funding to double the average daily census in the Hospice AIDS Program to 30 by February, although the need for community support for attendant care will continue at the same level, she added.

"If an AIDS client requires 24-hour supervision and support to remain safely at home, at this time Hospice is unable to serve

such a client, possibly resulting in rehospitalization," Martin said.

Anthony Marchione is one of Hospice's AIDS attendants. Formerly a buyer for a chain of clothing stores, Marchione read a story two years ago about a man with AIDS who had been rejected by his family and friends.

"I couldn't imagine how it would be to have a long-term illness—and have no one else there," he said. Marchione sought work first as a Shanti volunteer and then as a Hospice attendant, "because I don't think anyone should have to die alone."

'NOT ALL SADNESS'

Marchione is one of about 30 Hospice AIDS attendants, representing a mixture of ages, ethnic groups and sexual orientations. Many have received training as licensed vocational nurses, although their wages as attendants are lower than L.V.N.'s or than nurses' aides in nursing homes receive, Martin said.

Because of their "hands-on" involvement in the care of people with AIDS and the high AIDS mortality rate, the Hospice attendants by necessity have had to work through both the fear of contagion and issues of personal mortality. Their work is what many people might consider menial, but it can also be physically and emotionally

demanding, Martin said.

"Do everything," Marchione said about his job. "Cooking, laundry, shopping, you name it. One client had four months of laundry saved up, because he hadn't been able to do it for himself. I did as much as I could on my first shift with him, and took the rest home. It was the first time his sheets had been changed in four months."

"When you're with someone for three months and he dies—you're losing a best friend," Marchione said. "You build a rapport that you just can't describe, and afterwards you need to take some time off." Hospice also provides a weekly support group for attendants, and the members of the team—professional, attendant and volunteer—work closely together and support each other on an individual basis.

"Besides," Marchione said, "it's not all sadness. I think about what would happen to these people if there weren't people like me to do the work, and I remember how grateful they've been to me. When you see someone who really needs you, it's an automatic high."

Editor's note: Clif Newman died on Saturday, Dec. 8. His hospice nurse, Margaret Walter, spent six hours with him on a day off and was at his side when he died.

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ST 1984 BAY AREA REPORTER DECEMBER 27, 1984 PAGE 13



A QUESTION OF LAW

Of Interest For Tenants

TOM HORN

Do you have a question of law? If so, write us. Send your questions to: "A QUESTION OF LAW," c/o The Bay Area Reporter, 1528 15th Street, San Francisco, California 94103. This column will attempt to give answers to questions presented that pose common situations, or are of general interest. Recognize, however, that individual cases vary as do the statutes in the various jurisdictions. It is advisable to seek a professional opinion before undertaking any action that may have legal implications.

In San Francisco, does a landlord have a duty to pay interest on a security deposit posted for residential rental property?

Under an ordinance passed by the Board of Supervisors in 1983, Section 49 of the San Francisco Administrative Code now provides that landlords must pay interest at the rate of 5 percent on the amount of any deposits held for a period of a year or longer, beginning in September, 1983. The Board of Supervisors specifically placed this provision separate from the rent control ordinance, so that it would not be limited by the "owner occupied" exception to the rent control law and so that it would be outside the jurisdiction of the rent control arbitration board. Landlords may pay the interest either in a single annual payment or monthly, if they prefer.

The remedies available to tenants for violations of Section 49 are the same as those available for other violations of the California statutes related to security for performance of a rental agreement for residential

property. Violations may subject the landlord or his transferee to punitive damages not to exceed \$200, in addition to any actual damages. Any action for a violation may be maintained in small claims court if the damages claimed, whether actual or punitive or both, are within the jurisdictional amount of \$1,500.

For additional information, tenants should write the Affordable Housing Alliance for its "Information Packet on Interest on Security Deposits." Their address is 2560 Bryant Street, San Francisco, California 94110. Persons may also contact Mitchell Omerberg at Supervisor Harry Britt's office at City Hall.

I work in the Castro area. I ride a bicycle to work. I generally park it outside the store I work and chain it to a parking meter. The bike is always up on the sidewalk, not on the street. One day last week, during my work day, a Muni bus went out of control and jumped the curb crashing into my bike as well as a number of other vehicles. My bike was new and cost \$2,000. The estimate for repair is that

it will cost over \$700 to repair it. I want to sue Muni for the cost of repairing the bike. One of my friends said that I could not sue as the Muni is run by the City and you can't sue the City. Is that true?

No, it is not true. The City can be subject to suit for the negligence of city employees just as a private employer can be sued for the negligence of its employees. You have to be careful, however, in suing the City to make certain that you have complied with the 100 days claim statute. California law requires that if you are going to make a claim against a city, then you must file a written claim with the city within 100 days after the accident occurs. If you fail to file the written claim, then you cannot thereafter sue the city unless you go before the city's board of supervisors and get permission to make a late claim.

You should go to the City Attorney's office in San Francisco and ask them for a 100-day claims form. You can fill it out while you are there. It asks for your identifying information such as name, address, telephone number, a description of the accident and why you feel a city employee is at fault and an itemization of damages, including estimates and whatever documentation you have.

The City will then either accept the claim, deny the claim or seek some form of compromise. If you do not achieve the result you want through this claims process, then you may institute an action in court to recover your damages. In your case, as your damages are under \$1,500, you could file a small claims court action against the City. Just be sure to file your claim with the City Attorney's office prior to the expiration of 100 days from the date of the accident.

Community College Expands Courses for Spring Semester

Since 1980, the San Francisco Community College District has increased the number of credit and non-credit classes and counseling services in the Castro-Ventura area. Classes are held at Everett Middle School, 450 Church Street (between 16th and 17th Streets), until a more suitable facility is located. The response from the residents of this highly diverse area indicates a strong and growing need for educational services in this community. The Community College District seeks and welcomes community participation in order to solidify, expand, or change the program according to the needs of the community.

Classes offered by the Centers Division are non-credit and tuition-free. You may enroll at the first or any subsequent class meeting. All classes begin at 6:30 p.m. and meet for two to three hours. Dates in parentheses show duration of class.

MONDAY

- Small Business Management: Marketing (Jan. 14-April 8).
- Effective Stress Management (Jan. 14-Mar 25).

TUESDAY

- Manual Communication (Jan. 15-May 21) Sign language for beginners.
- ESL Writing-Intermediate (Jan. 15-May 21) English as a Second Language.
- Home Repair and Maintenance (Jan. 15-Mar 12).
- Social and Mental Health (Jan. 15-May 21) What is the place of Gay people in society? How does our history reflect our vision, and where are we now?
- Music Appreciation (Jan. 15-May 21).

WEDNESDAY

- Issues of Concern to Women (Jan. 16-May 22).
- Computer Literacy (Jan. 16-May 20) Must be followed by:
- Using Computer Resources (Mar. 27-April 17).
- Mid-Life Men: Career in Crisis (Jan. 16-Mar 13) Guide to starting or changing careers.
- Journal Writing for Women (Jan 16-May 22).
- Modern Personal Finance (Jan. 16-May 22) Bank accounts, investing, income tax.
- Minority Workers and Organized Labor (May 1-May 22).

THURSDAY

- Single Parenting Issues (Feb. 28-Mar. 21).
- Self-Defense (Jan. 17-May 23).
- Creative Writing (Jan. 17-May 23).
- ESL Writing-Intermediate (Jan. 15-May 21) Class also meets Tuesdays.
- Effective Communication (Jan. 17-Feb. 21) Workshop on intimate relationships.

For City College classes, you may have applied for Express Registration before Dec. 7. If not, Late Registration is available the first or second week of classes, space permitting. For 1 to 5 units, a fee of \$5 per unit is charged; for 6 or more units, the fee is \$50. The following classes are offered for credit by City College:

MONDAY

Art History: Western, Part 1.

- Creative Writing: Plays.
- Current Issues: Psychology of Intimate Relationships.
- Conversational Spanish.

TUESDAY

Fashion Merchandising.

- Intro to Computer Data Processing.
- Gay/Lesbian Literature 55A.
- Continuation of Intermediate Spanish.
- Intermediate Conversational Spanish.

WEDNESDAY

Theory and Techniques of Acting 10A.

- Theory and Techniques of Acting 10B.
- Gay/Lesbian Literature 55B.
- Intermediate Conversational Spanish.

THURSDAY

Principles of Real Estate.

- Beginning French Conversation.
- Career Exploration.
- Women in American History.
- Conversational Spanish.

City College courses are 3 units and meet from 6:30 to 9:30 p.m. (Fashion Merchandising, 7 to 10 p.m.), except Career Exploration, a 2-unit course, which meets from 6 to 8:30 p.m.

For additional information about City College courses, call 239-3308 or 238-3585. For information about financial aid at City College, call 239-3575. For information about non-credit courses of the Centers Division, call 239-3095. The semester begins Jan. 11, 1985.

DEATHS

Peter Dutch

Peter Gibson Dutch died Dec. 15, at San Francisco Children's Hospital of AIDS-related causes, at the age of 44. Born in Buffalo, New York, graduate of Cornell University class of '61, supervisor of San Francisco Social Services Department, he was active in several community groups.

Three years ago Peter founded the *Pacific Bridge* magazine which was aimed at promoting Asian-American relations of Gay people. His magazine was sent to many locations in the east and reached Gay people who had no other contact or knowledge about Gay life throughout the rest of the world.

Through his personal pen pal col-

umn, we met Gay men in Japan and other countries of southeast Asia and were able to keep in contact by mail, and to send other San Francisco Gay new papers and literature to those who lived in a closed culture.

Peter is survived by his mother, Kathryn McCawley of San Francisco, who requested that any contributions made in his memory be sent to finance AIDS research or to the Shanti project.

Memorial services were held Thursday, Dec. 20, at the Neptune Society Columbarium. His death will be a sad loss to those of us who appreciated all his work and effort in the development of *Pacific Bridge*.

Andrew J. Betancourt

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By DR. RICK PETTIT

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BAY AREA REPORTER GREATER BAY NEWS

Domestic Partners — Making It Work

**Berkeley Activist Spells Out
How Insurance Plan Will Operate**

by Charles Linebarger

Tom Brougham, who pioneered the concept of domestic partners legislation in the East Bay, said he believes that Berkeley will have no "particular problem" enforcing its newly passed domestic partners policy for lovers of city employees.

"We've just come through an election," Brougham said, "so the Berkeley Citizens Action (slate) is going to be in power for the next two years. We have a majority of 8-1 on that council. Secondly, the city has its own dental program and they have absolute control over that. Thirdly, the city offers its employees four possible health plans, and one of these is under the city's control."

The other three health plans available to city employees are Kaiser, Rockridge, and HEALS, all private HMO's. While they are not under the city's control, Brougham said he believes that if one of these HMO's comes through, the others will have to do likewise in order to remain competitive. Kaiser Permanente is the largest of the private health plans and Brougham thinks that the negotiations with Kaiser will go through smoothly.

Brougham differentiates Berkeley's domestic partnership policy from Supervisor Harry Britt's domestic partnership proposal in San Francisco.

The San Francisco plan was passed by the Board of Supervisors but vetoed by Mayor Dianne Feinstein. Under the Britt plan, any partner of a city employee could go to the city clerk's office and file an affidavit of domestic partnership. That formality would qualify the individual for coverage under his or her partner's insurance plan.

The major legitimate fear of the HMO's, according to Brougham, is that the lure of possible benefits will cause the creation of phony relationships on paper. What the health plans want is a system where they can be sure that people are forming their relationships first and applying for benefits second.

"Here in Berkeley also,"

Brougham added, "we require a financial link between the two partners. The affidavit that employees must file with the city clerk specifies that they agree to be financially responsible for one another. (Ala *Marvin v. Marvin*, agreements of this type are already enforceable in California.) It boils down to the fact that you can't expect an employer to take responsibility for the domestic partner of an employee, unless the employee is also willing to take responsibility for the partner."

Brougham said he believes this requirement of a financial link between domestic partners will separate out those with "entangling relationships" from those couples who have a real commitment to one another. This in turn will limit participation in the program. People will think twice, apparently, before signing someone else up for benefits when the act of doing it also makes them legally responsible for their partner.

The basic problem with domestic partnership legislation in San Francisco, as Brougham sees it, is that the mayor doesn't want it. "You can't please her. If you move to the left she objects, and the same if you move to the right."

Brougham has his own recipe for San Francisco's Gay and Lesbian community. He suggests that domestic partner activists sidestep city and county



Proving It Can Work. Berkeley School Board member Steve Lustig displays copy of domestic partners agreement earlier this year. East Bay Demos promise to monitor city's new benefit ordinance. (Photo: M.A. Brownstein)

'In Berkeley, we require a financial link between the two partners.'

Tom Brougham

government on this issue as long as Feinstein is in office, and instead channel efforts toward the College Board in San Francisco. He believes there is solid backing for Gay issues by college board members which can be used to put forward a policy of domestic partnership coverage for college employees. The only hope for this mayor is that she might be "shamed into signing domestic partnership legislation" by the actions of other governmental agencies in the city. Brougham said. ■

Lesbians, Gays Sue Texas Tech

Student Services for Lesbians, Gays and Friends (SSL/GF) has filed action in federal court against Texas Tech University following Tech's denial of registration for the group as a student organization on campus.

SSL/GF president, Robert Reed Obenour, a senior architecture/civil engineering student, indicated the group's "disappointment at the administration stand against allowing us the rights afforded other students at our university. We are extremely concerned that Texas Tech has chosen to address the issue by stating we would serve no educational purpose for the school, by bringing into the picture the desire to protect the student body from unspecified health dangers, and especially by attempting to reinforce its actions on a law that was declared unconstitutional over two years ago (Texas Penal Code 21.06, dealing with sodomy)."

The suit was filed through attorneys for Texas Human Rights Foundation at the request of Lambda Legal Defense and Education Fund, Inc. (LLDEF) which is involved in legal cases across the nation, countering discrimination against Gay men and Lesbians.

400 Attend Arts Fest Of San Jose Council

**First 'Integrated Showcase'
Packs 'Em In at Los Gatos**

The Winter Showcase of integrated arts, sponsored by the Arts Council of Gay and Lesbian San Jose, packed the Los Gatos Academy of Dance with a crowd of 400 despite drenching rains and chill winds during the noon-to-five, first-of-its-kind event Dec. 2.

Nine performers and performing groups combined with exhibitions of painting, sculpture and photography by 19 visual artists to hold captive the audience in an atmosphere of warmth, conviviality and pride throughout the afternoon.

"The remarkable thing," according to Rick Rudy, who co-chaired the event with Claire Mix, "was that most people didn't just come, look and leave; they came and stayed."

Marked by diversity in performance as well as exhibited work, the program ranged from dramatic readings to instrumental and choral music and dance, alternating between the main and small, mirrored studio/galleries of the Dance Academy at 16 Lyndon Avenue in Los Gatos.

Described by long-time San Jose resident Juanita Block as, "the finest event that's ever taken place in the Gay community here," the Winter Showcase was the Arts Council's premier presentation. Plans for the Spring Showcase are already underway with a May 5 date secured in the same location.

Interim presentations of the Arts Council include The Word Is Art, an evening of prose and poetry readings by South Bay Gay and Lesbian writers at the No View Gallery of Raymond Avalos, 750 No. 9th Street in San Jose in February, and an art auction March 3 in the Los Gatos Academy of Dance, 16 Lyndon Avenue, Los Gatos. ■

Gay Lawyer Is Honored

Well-known Gay community attorney Thomas Paul Rodgers was recently honored with certificates from both the Bar Association of San Francisco and the State Bar of California for his contributions of *pro bono* legal services in 1984. The activities cited in the awards included regular participation in the free legal clinic, the KQED Dial-a-Lawyer program, and a KYUU radio talk show; work with the Gay Legal Referral Service; and appearances as a speaker on several occasions. ■

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OAKLAND

Telegraph Ave.— The New 'Gay Way?'

NEZ PAS

SENARY-DYNASTY'S CANT
(*A Bidding Nose?*)

Spirits, both noel and puncheon, played a major part at the auction held at Big Mama's two Sundays ago. To benefit the needy and PWAs, a grand total of \$1,206 was raised in a quick hour and a half (the total includes \$330 previously acquired by their most royal majesties, Don and Jim at buffets at Town & Country).

Well over half of the money was spent on clothing for the needy. Ed Paulson secured most of the toddler's apparel, while Gay Sheriff Sean and Rick W. spent most of their time in the teens' and misses' dress departments!

The remaining monies will be divided between food stuffs and East Bay AIDS Fund. What a marvelous thing to happen during the holidays. An accounting for the finances will be printed soon, when Ed gets all the receipts sorted out.

OMNIUM-GATHERUM
(*A Pasticcio Nose?*)

My spouse and I managed to spend a couple of hours at the Hub's "Entertainment III"—Christmas party—8th Anniversary party and as usual had a very good time. The entertainment was, once again, top notch; and there was a definite depression in the crowd when it was announced that Jimi Dee had called in sick and couldn't participate in the competition. Many thanks to Jon Crovo and staff for the hospitality. It's a great place to visit in Walnut Creek.

Had occasion to pop in Jack Eberhart's new Cable Reel on Telegraph. Previous rumors about major reconstruction of bathrooms downstairs were unfounded, as everything is still basically as it was when we knew it as New Luckys (save for the dining room-scullery area). Welcome to Telegraph Avenue, Jack.

Marv Budderman was queried by some reporter from the SF *Chronicle* in regard to his opinions on what was going to happen to Telegraph Avenue, what with all the Gay bars now thereon. Prognosis is that Castro and Polk will have little competition from any similar type of Gay ghetto in Oakland.

East Bay AIDS Fund Committee had only one request to consider at its last meeting, and \$200 was approved for auto emergency. The long-awaited "personal products packets" are now available to all who must enter the AIDS ward at Fairmont Hospital. A sample packet will now be on display at all East Bay AIDS fund raisers, to show where part of your donated money is spent. Each packet costs approximately \$18-20, and is well worth it.

As a reminder, any Patient with AIDS in the East Bay is eligible for assistance. Information may be obtained by calling: Jim or David, 537-5584; Sean, 537-5003; Ed, 538-3913; Jodi, 881-5649; Pete, 569-5335; or Marv, 569-9135.

This committee wishes me to reiterate that absolutely none of the raised monies ever goes to "administrative costs." There are no salaries. Even postage and phone charges are donated by individuals of the committee. Every penny raised goes directly to patients with AIDS who need assistance.

Engads! Mr. Lumberjack II,

George's planned "gourmet dinner" already has every guest cook committed to the event. He also has sold (or promises of being sold) 28 tickets, at \$15 a person. This gala event will take place at Revol, on Wednesday, Feb. 13. All proceeds go to Alameda County Special Olympics. If interested in attending, you had better contact George ASAP, as these tickets are really going fast. Me thinks that we just might look forward to monthly events of this type?

Wish that I could add my compliments to those of fellow writers of *B.A.R.* for the annual Christmas party at Bob Ross's home; but, alas, yours truly never received an invitation! Harumph! I wonder if "they" are trying to tell me something?

Hey, I know that nobody ever asks for it, but I do it every year whether I need it or not—so please bare with me for this year's Holiday Poem:

Splendid times await
any who embrace
East Bay bars and the
ambience of our cheer;
All will find something
of leather and lace,
So enjoy our offerings
throughout the New Year.
Oblige yourself at the
White Horse or Lancers,
Nestle in at In-B-Tween or
famous Turf Club;
Swinging Bench & Bar is a
specialty for dancers,
Gather a group at Lake Lounge
or the Hub.
Revol has a piano bar; Ollie's
a big stage;
Engage the fun at Town &
Country's great bar;
Eating at Paradise is becoming
the rage,
Tanicie screen at Big Mama's
is the star.
Include in your plans
three more spots of fun,
Navigate to Kelly's or the
Jubilee, why not?
Get to the new Spoiled Brat
around March One;
Should Auld Acquaintances
be forgot?

During these marvelous holidays remember: the other line *ALWAYS* moves faster!
Love, ■

Nez
**Goodbye,
1984**

Out of the Closet, Into the Library

A library display depicting how homosexuals are coming "out of the closets" and into the mainstream of society has opened at West Berkeley Library, 1125 University Ave., Berkeley, and will run through Jan. 15.

The display shows famous and not-so-famous Lesbians and Gay men through the use of books, records and photographs and various three-dimensional objects. Organized by the Berkeley-based Pacific Center, a mental health and social services agency for Lesbians and Gay men, the display portrays people of all ages, races, socio-economic classes, occupations and lifestyles.

"This exhibit is a way to dispel the negative stereotypes that exist about Gay men and Lesbians," said Joanie Trussel, Coordinator of Educational Services at the Pacific Center, "and to show non-gay people that Lesbians and Gay men are everywhere—mechanics, gardeners, doctors, musicians and police officers."

One of the features of this ongoing, traveling display on Lesbians and Gay men is a log journal in which library patrons have begun writing their reactions to the exhibit.

"We feel it's very important that Gay and non-Gay people communicate their positive and negative feelings about each other," according to Kristen Loomis, a Lesbian bibliographer working on this library project. "If a person writes a negative comment openly in our log journal—rather than on some bathroom wall—we can all benefit from it. He or she gets the feelings out, we know what kinds of things are bothering people, and we can incorporate that feeling/myth/stereotype into future displays." ■

Stanford Expert Sees Progress Against AIDS

Advances in 1984 Changed Problem From Mystery to Well-Defined Challenge

STANFORD—The battle against AIDS—acquired immune deficiency syndrome—is no longer a blind attack but involves a predictable series of problem solving efforts, a Stanford University infectious disease expert contends.

The first major advance will be a diagnostic test that can detect the AIDS causative agent in blood, "allowing us to gain control over the nation's blood supply within the next year or two," said Dr. Thomas Merigan, professor of medicine at Stanford University School of Medicine.

Also in the next year or two, enough will be learned about the disease and its natural history to recommend more effective personal and public health measures to prevent spread of the disease, said Merigan, George E. and Lucy Becker Professor of Medicine.

Next, researchers may discover ways of interrupting the disease's course, saving some infected individuals from developing the full-blown disease, Merigan predicted. For example, during the next few years, testing of antiviral agents and experimental vaccines should be under way in people who have AIDS and in high risk groups, he said.

It was the recent discovery of a virus believed to cause AIDS, accomplished by U.S. and French research teams, that has transformed the AIDS epidemic from an open-ended enigma to a well-defined medical problem, Merigan said. Medical science has made good strides in understanding other viral diseases and that knowledge can now be put to work on AIDS, Merigan explained. He made his comments in a recent interview and made similar observations in an invited editorial in the Nov. 15 issue of the *New England Journal of Medicine*.

"The rapid association of HTLV-3 virus infection with AIDS soon after the disease was first described is a triumph of today's biologic science," Merigan wrote. "Unpredictability in the timing of advances of biologic and medical investigation was characteristic of the past," he added. But today, society has the knowledge and scientists to solve scientific medical problems in the way that we have come to expect of engineers in space exploration and computer scientists in automation," Merigan said.

HTLV-3 virus will soon be proved to cause the deadly illness either when a vaccine against the virus is shown to

will probably consist of viral coat proteins manufactured through the new techniques of recombinant DNA, Merigan said, rather than from the more risky approach of using a weakened strain of the whole virus itself.

But it is not a certainty that such a vaccination would be protective, he cautioned.

Antivirals used with some success to treat viral diseases such as hepatitis-B are showing some promise, noted Merigan, who is an expert on interferon, a natural antiviral substance produced by the body. "We know that interferon shows some inhibitory action against HTLV-3 in the laboratory," said Merigan. But large placebo-controlled trials in patients are required to test antiviral drugs before any conclusions can be drawn, he stressed.

In addition to interferon, other antiviral drugs are being studied in the laboratory, including nucleoside inhibitors, he added.

Because the HTLV-3 virus is thought to destroy certain cells that make the immune system work, bolstering the body's immune response provides another treatment approach, Merigan said. An "immune-enhancement" drug called interleukin-2, one of the body's own proteins, is being tested in pilot studies of patients with AIDS. It might even be possible someday to resupply the lost immune system cells through transplant procedures, he said.

"Since the government has led in development of vaccines and antiviral agents in the past, it is likely that it will have a critical role in bringing together appropriate investigators and resources from both the academic community and industry," Merigan wrote. "An apparatus capable of attacking this problem rationally is currently in place."

But "the ultimate test of our understanding will be whether we can control this agent in human beings," Merigan observed. "Undoubtedly, the benefits will not come soon enough for all," he noted. "Previous experience with persistent viral infections suggests that there is much work ahead." ■

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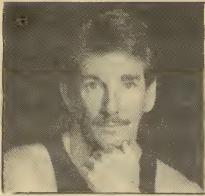
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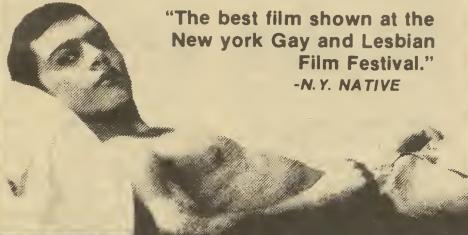
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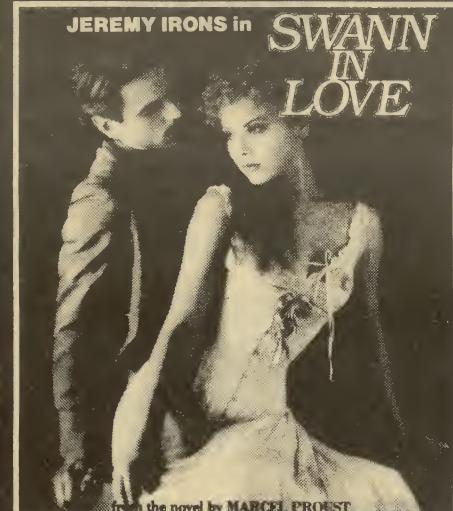
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—David Ansen, *Newsweek*

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FRIDAY 28

- Monica Palacios and Marga Gomez: comedy, Clementina's Baybrick Inn, 1190 Folsom St., S.F., 6 to 8 PM, free.
- Fraternal Order of Gays: game fest, 65 Midcrest Way, S.F., 8 PM. Trivial Pursuit, Monopoly, Risk, and Scrabble can be played. Call 753-6786 for more information.
- Jacques Brel is Alive and Well and Living in Paris: stage performance, Belrose Theatre, 1415 5th Ave., San Rafael, 8:30 PM, \$10. Starring Ruth Hastings. Call 864-6669 for reservations.
- Teresa Tudury: music/comedy, Mame's, 389 Bay St. at Mason, S.F., 9 PM, \$5. An evening with Auntie Mame.
- Pickle Family Circus: 10th anniversary performances, Palace of Fine Arts Theatre, S.F., 2 and 7:30 PM, \$9.
- Acupuncture Clinic: for persons with AIDS and their Gay families, The Parsonage, 555A Castro St., S.F., by appointment, free. Call Mark Denzin, C.A., or Peter Betcher at 567-2315 for more information. Stress/pain control.
- The Concubine at the Feast: stage performance, Theatre Rhinoceros, 2926 16th St., S.F., 8:30 PM, \$9 and \$10. Rhino's second production of the season, by Paul August Cacciotti, directed by Kris Gannon.
- Lea DeLaria and Jeanine Strobel: comedy, Valencia Rose, 766 Valencia St., S.F., 8 PM, \$6. DeLaria and Strobel, fresh from their three-month New York engagement, return to the Rose to record their first album live in front of "home grown" audiences and premiere their new show, *Life Got Tough and We Got Nellie*.
- The Matador Club: stage performance, Mission Neighborhood Center, 362 Capp St., S.F., 8:30 PM, \$6. A new play about stand-up comedy and bullfighting based loosely on the novel by ex-San Franciscan writer and bistro owner Barnaby Conrad. Written and directed by Gary Aylesworth, with Peter Newton.
- The Sound of a Voice and The House of Sleeping Beauties: stage performance, People's Theatre Coalition, Bldg. B, Fort Mason Center, S.F., 8 PM, cover. The Asian American Theater Company presents two one-act plays.
- Beach Blanket Babylon: stage performance, Club Fugazi, 678 Green St., S.F., 8 and 10:30 PM, \$16. The holiday version begins.

SATURDAY 29

- Gay Comedy Night: comedy, Valencia Rose, 766 Valencia St., S.F., 10 PM, \$5. With Marga Gomez, Mario Mondelli, Monica Palacios, and Danny Williams.
- Duck's Breath Mystery Theatre: stage performance, Julia Morgan Theatre, 2640 College Ave., Berkeley, 8:30 PM, \$8. A zany mix of classic favorites and new material.
- Jacques Brel is Alive and Well and Living in Paris: stage performance (see Friday listing for details).
- Pamela Brooks: music, Mame's, 389 Bay St. at Mason, S.F., 8:30 and 10 PM, \$5.
- Pickle Family Circus: 10th anniversary performances (see Friday listing for details).
- The Concubine at the Feast: stage performance (see Friday listing for details).
- Lea DeLaria and Jeanine Strobel: comedy (see Friday listing for details).
- The Matador Club: stage performance (see Friday listing for details).
- The Sound of a Voice and The House of Sleeping Beauties: stage performance (see Friday listing for details).
- Beach Blanket Babylon: stage performance (see Friday listing for details).

SUNDAY 30

- Linda Tillery Band: music, Clementina's Baybrick Inn, 1190 Folsom St., S.F., 8 PM.
- Gay and Lesbian Outreach to Elders: tea dance for Lesbians over 60 and their women friends, San Francisco Home Health Services, 225 30th St., S.F., 2 to 5 PM, donations appreciated, bring refreshments to share. Sing-a-long with piano and sheet music will be included.
- San Francisco FrontRunners: Marina/Fort Point run, begins at the Gashouse Cove parking lot, Marina Blvd. and Buchanan, S.F., 10 AM. One to five miles.
- East Bay FrontRunners: Lafayette/Moraga Trail run, take 24 East to Pleasant Hill Rd. South, go right on Olympic Blvd., left to Reliez Station Rd. and left into dirt parking lot, 9:30 AM. Flat two to four mile route. Call 526-7315 or 527-9167 for more information.

It's time to get out those glad rags for the big party Monday

- Anne Laurent: music, Mame's, 389 Bay St. at Mason, S.F., 8 PM, \$5.
- Duck's Breath Mystery Theatre: stage performance (see Saturday listing for details).
- The Concubine at the Feast: stage performance (see Friday listing for details).
- Pickle Family Circus: 10th anniversary performances, 2 PM (see Friday listing for details).
- The Sound of a Voice and The House of Sleeping Beauties: stage performance, 3 and 7 PM (see Friday listing for details).
- Drop-in VD Clinic: sponsored by the Gay Men's Health Collective, 2339 Durant Ave., Berkeley, 7 to 9 PM. Free and confidential. Testing and treatment for gonorrhea, syphilis, NGU, scabies, lice, etc., also counseling and referrals. Call 644-0425 for more information.
- Beach Blanket Babylon: stage performance, 7:30 PM, \$14 (see Friday listing for details).

MONDAY 31

- So Many Men 1985: gala event, Giftcenter Pavilion, 888 Brannan St., S.F., 9 PM to 9 AM, \$25 advance, \$35 at the door. With Evelyn Thomas and Linda Clifford, DJs Michael Garrett and Bob Viteritti, large screen video, wrestling fantasy.



Debbie Saunders and Tom Ammiano will team up for a

WEEK



Party Monday night, wherever it happens to be (Photo: Rink)

- The Sky's the Limit: gala event, Galleria Design Center, 15th and Kansas Sts., S.F., 10 PM til dawn, \$30 advance, \$35 at the door. With Bonnie Pointer. Groups, couples, and singles may compete for \$300 prize for most decadent costume, \$300 for most elegant, and \$300 for best high fashion.
- No Regrets: comedy and music with Tom Ammiano and Debbie Saunders, Valencia Rose, 766 Valencia St., S.F., 10 PM, \$10. Complementary champagne, hors d'oeuvres.
- The Place to Be: party, Amelia's, 647 Valencia St., S.F., free champagne 9 to 10 PM, \$5 cover. With DJ Page.
- Where Old and New Friends Meet: party, Maud's, 937 Cole St., S.F., all night, free.
- A Night in Old Vienna: gala party, Davies Hall, S.F., 9 PM, \$35 to \$55. Viennese conductor Kurt Woss leads the orchestra, party to follow concert when the Walt Tolleson Orchestra will perform waltzes and swing music until 1 AM.
- Gala New Year's Eve Celebration: party, Mame's, 389 Bay St. at Mason, S.F., 9 PM, \$20. With Samantha Samuels and Danny Williams. Includes champagne.



up for a New Year's Eve performance at the Rose

- Duck's Breath Mystery Theatre: stage performance, \$15 (see Saturday listing for details).

TUESDAY 1

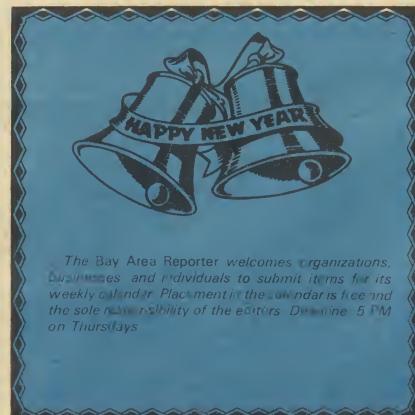
- Lady Bianca: music, Clementina's Baybrick Inn, 1190 Folsom St., S.F., 7 to 9 PM.
- Beginning Square Dancing: dance, 2140 Market, S.F., 8:15 PM. Learn with the Bay City Ramblers.
- Artists Involved with Death and Survival: stage performance, The Studio, 2926 16th St., S.F., 8:30 PM, \$7. A collaborative effort of 13 Bay Area Gay and Lesbian artists that delivers new insights into the deepening AIDS crisis.
- Yoga and Meditation Class: for people with AIDS and their lovers, 10 AM to noon. Call 921-4471 for more information.
- International Folk Dancing: dance class, Nova Academy, 347 Dolores St., S.F., 7 to 9 PM, \$2. No pre-registration necessary. Call 552-8413 for more information.

WEDNESDAY 2

- Tumbleweed: dance/theater, Valencia Rose, 766 Valencia St., S.F., 8 PM, \$6. Featuring Rhodessa Jones, Theresa Dickenson, Nora Burnett, and K'hevan Lennon-Onaje.
- Nancy Shallman: music, Clementina's Baybrick Inn, 1190 Folsom St., S.F., 7 to 9 PM.
- Fruit Punch: radio, KPFA (94.1 FM) 10 PM. Jon Sugar hosts the Gay 1984 show. With Brian Jones of the Bay Area Reporter and Kim Corsaro of Coming Up!
- The Concubine at the Feast: stage performance, \$8 and \$9 (see Friday listing for details).
- Artists Involved with Death and Survival: stage performance (see Tuesday listing for details).

THURSDAY 3

- Torch: music, Clementina's Baybrick Inn, 1190 Folsom St., S.F., 7 to 9 PM.
- Tumbleweed: dance/theater (see Wednesday listing for details).
- Pictures at an Exhibition: stage performance, Zephyr Theater, 595 Mission St., S.F., 8:30 PM, cover. Directed by Peter Luce. With Marian Scott, Marianne Simon, Stephen Logue, and Martin Ponch. Call 557-5139 or 753-0492 for more information.
- The Concubine at the Feast: stage performance, \$8 and \$9 (see Friday listing for details).
- The Sound of a Voice and The House of Sleeping Beauties: stage performance (see Friday listing for details).
- Yoga and Meditation Class: for people with AIDS and their lovers, 7 to 9 PM. Call 921-4471 for more information.
- Couples Group II: ongoing drop-in support group for persons with AIDS and their lovers, Pride Center, 890 Hayes St., S.F., 7 to 9 PM. Call 821-8830 or 558-9644 for more information.
- Writing Workshop: for seniors 60 and older, Operation Concern, 1853 Market St., S.F., Sponsored by Gay and Lesbian Outreach to Elders. Call George Birimisa at 431-6254 for more information.
- Western Star Dancers: beginners square dance class, YMCA, 220 Golden Gate, 2nd floor, S.F., 7:30 PM. Call 864-6134 for more information.



The Bay Area Reporter welcomes organizations, businesses and individuals to submit items for its weekly calendar. Placement in the calendar is free and the sole responsibility of the editors. Deadline: 5 PM on Thursdays.

NEW YEARS EVE

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BAY AREA REPORTER

ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT

BOOK RACK

Timeless

Outside of Time
by Nina Glaser
Beaux-Arts Press, \$17.95

by Mark I. Chester

Check out Nina Glaser's first book of photographs, *Outside of Time*. It is quite an achievement when a photographer of four years produces a body of work, numerous shows, and is frequently published, resulting in a book of images.

The concept underlying the photographs is interesting, if not unique—to create images which challenge and question our normal perceptions of the world. "Create" is the key word here. The photographs are premeditated visualizations of the photographer. Think of them as a collection of Glaser's self-portraits.

Art is, by its nature, partly a reaction to and comment on the times in which the artist lives. Naturalistic photography and documentary photojournalism, both focused on capturing reality as it "really" is, dominated the field of photography from the early 1930s until the mid-1970s. In creating statements, much as a painter would, Glaser is part of a major photographic trend—which includes an interest in portraiture as fine art that has increased in popularity over the last 15 years.

Photographers I suggest you track down next time you are in a bookstore are: Jerry Uelsmann, Duane Michaels, Arthur Trees, Steven Arnold, Robert Mapplethorpe, and Joel Peter Witkin, whose book will be out in spring.

In *Outside of Time*, Glaser's vision becomes readily identifiable. She utilizes a fairly narrow set of techniques which help bind the photographs together as a cohesive statement—



An example of Nina Glaser's work.

unidentifiable environments, caucasian models chosen for their "timeless" appearance, nudity, and a built-in tension between people and inanimate objects. She binds the photographs further by concentrating on visual clarity, soft-even lighting, and avoiding unusual perspectives and camera angles.

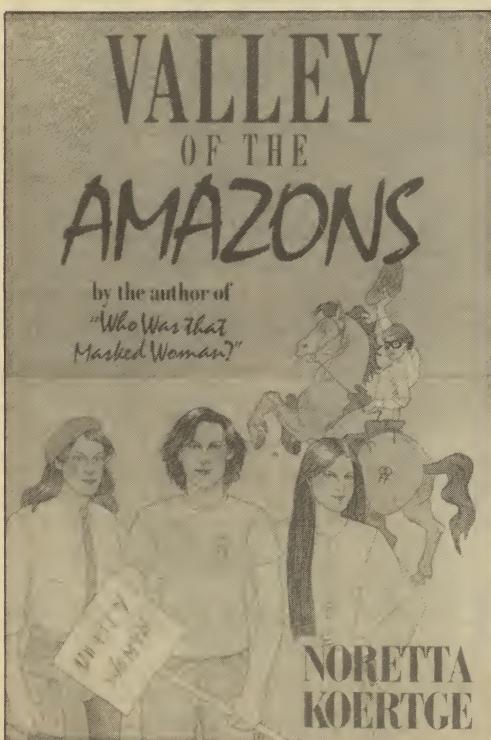
But while these techniques help build a cohesive whole, they also restrict and limit the imagery, creating a sense of sameness that grows with each new photograph. As a result, the im-

pact of the work as a whole grows, while the strength of each individual photograph diminishes.

Photographs created to raise questions get their strength from the tensions built into the images. Lighting, environments, tonalities, and perspectives are all ways to add tension to a photograph. In muting these elements, Glaser squarely places the entire power of many of her photographs solely on her models.

Some of the models are posed in a bold, highly stylistic manner, as in an intriguing series called "Death-Transition" which explores grief or loss in a male-male couple. In many of the other photographs, the models feel stiffly posed, like dolls or mannequins (life-like, but not alive). A photograph of a young girl with a tortoise shell on her back and on all fours, becomes less of a question raised

(Continued on next page)



Universal Conditions

Valley of the Amazons
by Noretta Koertge
St. Martin's Press, \$6.95, paper

by Dianne Gregory

Political correctness has doomed many a worthwhile novel churned out by Gay presses in the last decade. And a healthy dose of irreverence towards the foibles and pitfalls of the people who make up the Gay community has saved many others from terminal superciliousness. In trying to change the pattern of the depraved and damned school of "homosexual" literature popular in pre-Stonewall days, many authors have made their characters so hunky and dory as to be unbelievable.

Not so Noretta Koertge. Her

Life and Love

Old Dyke Tales
by Lee Lynch
Naiad Press, Inc., \$7.95, paper

by Dianne Gregory

Lee Lynch, the author of *Toothpick House*, has compiled a collection of short stories that, although a slow read at first, in the end comes through with a truth and a beauty that cannot be overlooked by even the most jaded.

Nine of the 18 stories deal with three situations: two women who own a bar together, an old woman and her memories, and two women working at a fruitstand. These three motifs point to the diversity of the women who populate Lynch's stories. She writes about the very old and the very young, the very closeted and the very uncloseted, the very educated and the very uneducated, and the very rich, but mostly the very poor.

These characters do not exist to make a point, but jump out alive and full-blown off the page. I think I've met all of them.

One of the best examples of the pathos Lynch brings to her stories is one called "Pleasure Park" about two elderly lovers who meet up with a young Lesbian and share their story of living and loving in far less tolerant times. They have been coming to the long-forgotten amusement park since the day many years ago they lost a ring there that symbolized their relationship. Both the summer heat and the women's love for one another are palpable. It's a beautiful story among the many beautiful stories Lynch tells in this book about Lesbian life and love. ■



second book, *Valley of the Amazons*, although veering towards the precipice of being overly PC, is saved by Koertge's clear-eyed, dry wit when it comes to her Gay brothers and sisters. It is the story of Tretona, a college professor in Booneville, USA, who comes through bad romances, a quest for tenure, and a team-taught course on homosexuality to find that nobody in the burgeoning Booneville Gay community agrees on anything but survival. She also meets the first woman among her string of lovers with whom she could possibly mate for life. One hears whispers of promises of commitment faintly in the background on the book's final pages, but thankfully there are none of the strings that signal the end of your truly PC Lesbian romance

novel.

Most writers worth their salt hate the idea that their fiction is autobiographical, although many first and even second novels are. Consider *Rubyfruit Jungle* and *Six of One*, Rita Mae Brown's first two efforts. Not only are both novels autobiographical, but the second is simply a rosier version of the first. And although I couldn't tell you for sure, I would bet Koertge's first two novels are autobiographical as well.

That's fine, as long as the writer can sift through her/his life to come up with the universal conditions we can all relate to and learn from. And I think Koertge has done that. ■

EVEN IN BABYLON

For Christmas, A Happy Birthday to Tom



JOHN F. KARR.

At the beginning of each year I enter all my friend's birthdays in my new appointment book. That afforded a dreadful surprise when I turned the page last week and read, "Saturday is Tom Rogers' birthday."

Saturday was Tom's birthday, or would be, if he hadn't died from AIDS-related pneumonia last spring.

Tom's mere absence isn't enough to convince me he's gone. He's out there, on the streets, in the bars, somewhere. He's in my mind, my heart, my house. Standing on a shelf in my bedroom is a leather teddy bear given to me by Tom's lover, Red, who made and marketed them. Not a leatherman myself, I can't always understand the ways of leather. I couldn't see why tough leather boys, into their role playing, butch fakes, and fisting, would like something as cute as a teddy dressed in itsy-poo leather fashions.

Standing on its shelf, the teddy came to represent Tom, and I argued with it. If the teddy was here, where was Tom? Where was that dear, sweet man, who was sentimental and concerned for his friends, and who dressed in foreboding black leathers and participated in forbidden acts at the Catacombs? Tom's leather outside didn't stop him from being friendly, soft, on the inside.

Of course, I thought, looking at the teddy one day. That was Tom. Not a drag queen in black skins, but the soft inside the hard, the soft which knew when to be hard. Many leathermen, Tom and Red so admirably, combine these qualities.

Tom loved me, and taught me a lot. He forced me to think, as he did about the lifestyle he shared with his lover. Once I viewed the leather teddy as a frivolous object, but now I've come to cherish it as a symbol of the potential we all have to combine the sensitive and the strong, the traditionally feminine and masculine, in one being.

So Tom lives on in my house, in the presence of Red's leather teddy. Everytime I see it, though, I question why Tom is gone. That question blossoms

into a hundred others, but their base is the same: Do Gay men know what they're doing?

Homosexuality offers so much more than the choice of male sex partners. It offers freedom from the frequently stale, fixed patterns of the straight world. To substitute conformity within the Gay world is to throw away that freedom. Unquestioned conformity is a jail more deadening than any closet.

The AIDS crisis, the death of my friends, has strengthened my identity by forcing me to question it, to be sure my life is created as I wish it to be. I find the random viciousness of nature more easily acceptable than the ease with which Gay men betray themselves and allow themselves to be betrayed.

It doesn't take much to rationalize the reverse chic of buddy body counts—"I've had four friends die from AIDS," you hear as you pass restaurant tables—but how do you explain many classified ads? One bombshell ad last week sought an "AIDS-aware top who wants my spread cheeks on his face." Another ad was placed by a

months, the fiction we're supposed to fantasize over has specialized in heterosexual truck drivers and laborers who descend to stuff a fag's orifices while saying things like, "take that dick in your pussy," or "you fuckin' queer cocksucker."

And this is supposed to stimulate us to orgasm. You've got to be taught to get hard behind hate, and it's a convoluted lesson.

Last week an anonymous member of S.F. Jacks, the masturbation club, sent a letter to its organizers, criticizing the club's theme evenings and dress-up events. These prevented him from fantasizing that everyone in the room—himself included—was heterosexual. Well, keep your mind off me, buddy. After years of fighting to be Gay, I don't want to be mistaken for or fantasized as a straight boy!

Why are fantasies of straight men being fed to us by magazines? Aren't Gay men good enough? Handsome enough? Or are straight men better because they're all-male, not queer? This sick fantasy is more destructive than AIDS. It makes us our own oppressor.

Masc. healthy GWM handsome 37 seeks younger AIDS-/Aware top who wants my spread cheeks on his face. Send letter and photo for mine.

"healthy man into greek and scat." And so on. The mags are full of men suicidally requesting room-service send up exactly what doctors have condemned, and we're four years into this situation. How long can you have your head in the sand—or up your ass—and survive?

After our physical health, mental health is an area in which betrayal rings on all sides. Our "entertainment" magazines, those glossy collections of nudes and JO fiction, are selling us up river. One editor claimed his mags would have no mention of AIDS by reader request: they were tired of the news and wanted their glossies to be strictly gloss.

And what of the entertainment provided? In the last

And gyms. I've got nothing against them. I adore tits. I haven't pursued my own set because my identity is based more on my mind than in my mass. Besides, I have other things to offer, like hoopla and oui-oui-oui. But I'll feast my eyes on another man's body gladly. I only hope he's got it to complement his personality, not replace it.

One friend of mine joined a gym, he said, "because I wanted Upper Torso Presence when I entered a room." That's fine, if he can say hello after we've surveyed his tits—oops, I mean his Upper Torso. The God of the Exterior is a false god without an interior backup. Insecurity is insecurity even when there's tits hanging on it.

could be considered.

Beginning salary is above local pay levels for comparable work, and full health and life insurance benefits are provided by Naiad Press.

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causes ripples, but only time will tell if those ripples will become waves. When Glaser can use this body of work as a stepping stone, as a base upon which to build, as opposed to the pathway itself, we may get waves.

Author's Note: There are real dangers inherent when a photographer attempts to critique the work of a peer. I think it is important for the Gay/Lesbian community to critically evaluate (as opposed to criticize) the arts produced in relation to our community. But the dangers inherent in this attempt are balanced out by a love of photography and the community I feel connected to.

M. I. Chester

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Books

(Continued from previous page)

than the picture of a young girl who has been posed to raise questions. The lack of actual physical depth behind many of the models adds to a sense of images on a television screen or in store window designs.

Self-exploration through creation, which this is, becomes increasingly potent as you come closer to the heart of the matter. This sense of people as inanimate objects helps make the more disturbing questions raised by Glaser easier and safer to deal with. They gently resonate.

The most powerful image for me is that of two women sitting side by side, nude but non-revealing. Like the best of Diane Arbus' work, the eyes blaze with mystery, with questions that can't quite be pinpointed, let alone answered. I find myself drawn back and back to those eyes. In other photographs, Glaser effectively uses environment as a point of tension and balance. I am drawn to the image of a young baby crying on a Richard Bauer sculpture laying on the ground. There is a vibrant life in every inch of that baby, something missing in many of the models.

This is Nina Glaser's first step into the water. Even a first step



Red Bentzinger (l.) cuts Tom Rogers' hospital bracelet off backstage at the Rink. Mr. South of Market contest last spring, a few weeks before his death (Photo:)

So what does this come to? We're all insecure. The need to conform plagues everybody. These problems are not new. But if we don't question our lives, build Gay identities uninfluenced by straight conventions and make sure we act from choice and not herd instinct, we betray ourselves. And in the face of AIDS, that is unbearable, unpardonable.

I cried when I read last week's obituary page. I knew four of the five men pictured. I cried for the dead, but I cry, too, for the living who are not fully alive and yet may face the same death. As the ads for Pinocchio proclaim in our daily papers, "Becoming a real boy isn't as easy as it looks."

Tom Rogers would have liked that. He tried hard to understand his actions, make good choices, inform his fellow leathermen. So whether or not you connect with any of my random thoughts, take a second where you sit, and say happy birthday to Tom.



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Key Issues

by Bernard Spunberg

Who's been reading my diary? Ron Romanovsky and Paul Phillips' debut studio album, *I Thought You'd Be Taller*, tenderly, humorously, and truthfully confronts key issues in my life as a Gay man. Mine, however, is probably not the only dairy in which Romanovsky and Phillips have peeked. Available on Valencia near 21st Street at Modern Times and Old Wives Tales, by mail through Fresh Fruit Records, and at R&P's January 10-12 concerts at the Valencia Rose, *I Thought You'd Be Taller* has already sold a thousand copies.

Though R&P have been performing before ever-growing audiences in San Francisco since July 1982, their success is by no means limited to the local scene. In October 1983, they performed at the National Conference of Pride Coordinators in San Diego. The conferees backed up their ecstatic response with bookings through January 1984 for 20 concerts in 18 cities. Gay pride week found R&P responding to invitations to sing from San Diego to Boston. In October and November, R&P made a 13-city West Coast tour. Their next tour will extend from March to June 1985 and will include 30 to 40 cities throughout the South, Midwest, and New England.

In live performance, R&P share their personalities as lavishly as their music. Ron, the duo's primary creative force, is appealingly shy, though Paul's uninhibited banter—and rhinestones—frequently evoke a zingy one-liner. We get neither costumes nor chat with the new album, but we do hear R&P

enhanced by flute, percussion, bass, and a thoughtful, professional production style that makes *I Thought You'd Be Taller* well worth owning.

"Outfield Blues," a staple of the R&P repertoire, recalls bitter memories of forced team sports in school. For their recording, R&P superimpose the voices of two little boys between the verses, elevating the song to the level of psychodrama. Here is one of their dialogues.

Hey, man, my sister plays better basketball than you. Leave me alone. Uh-uh. What'd I do? You act like a sissy, that's what you're doing. I'm not. You are. Leave me alone.

The realistic edge in the boys' voices makes this painful stuff. Later in the song, however, R&P lampoon both nelly and macho behavior, introducing a comedic element that puts bitter memory in perspective and ultimately purges it.

In "Cat and Mouse," a wry description of the dynamics of cruising, Ron sings into the microphone intimately.

You are like a mystery A challenge to unfold But the plot is quickly weakening And the drama's getting old Perhaps I should be more aggressive Perhaps I should be blunt But you just seem so terrified Of getting what you want

"Attitude" finds R&P at a "very posh affair" at which they



No-neck Romanovsky (l.) and Paul Phillips

rub elbows with those of the champagne and caviar set. But putting on airs poses no problem for R&P; after all, they're Gay. Embellished by beautiful harmonic suspensions, the words

I can be aloof I can be rude I can have attitude

convey satiric wit and bite.

"Womb Envy," Paul Phillips' big number, expresses

yearning to be a parent. Enhanced by backup singing by the Phillips Sisters—overdubbing of Paul's voice—the song is a comic filing with a core of emotional truth. Paul's voice is fine, his sense of humor excellent, and his kazoo solo mercifully brief.

"Best Friends," the loveliest song on the album, depicts the confrontation of two men, one Gay and one straight, who were

lovers in adolescence. The flexible, expressive jazz flute of Donna Viscuso of The Leopard Set curls around the voices like a wisp of smoke. The song reveals Romanovsky as a song writer capable of expressing complicated emotional issues in just a few words. Here's one verse:

Sometimes you're too young to know

Some things you just outgrow But I know what I felt for you And it must have scared the hell out of you

"Paint By Numbers" recounts the story of Frances Farmer, the 1940s film star destroyed by Hollywood. Though not specifically Gay, the song finds relevance to Gay life in its passionate indictment of a system that forces individuals to "paint by numbers, walk in single file, learn the system, conform to the style." Paul Phillips' soaring vocalism underlines R&P's emotional identification with Farmer's story.

There are a slew of Gay comics who make no bones about their identity. In music, however, performers frequently hide behind personas that obscure their real selves. Romanovsky and Phillips are sweet, gentle Gay men, and that's just how their music sounds. Not every song on their new album is successful. There is a song about a closeted, married Gay man that reflects little sympathy for struggle to find emotional balance in a complicated life. The anti-nuke song sounds like a lot of other anti-nuke songs and is thematically out of place on the album. But these are minor complaints.

Sung with unforced voices and clear, delicately colored diction, R&P's music has a slightly folksy quality that avoids corny '60s clichés.

Whether evoking the thrill of romance or bitter alienation, Romanovsky and Phillips sing—beautifully—about my experience as a Gay man. ■

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CLOSED MONDAYS

Quivering on the Edge

by Rink

Some were drawn by the flyer photograph of a well-built, shirtless man with a sultry come-hither look. Others were there because they knew Rick Mills as their Castro Station bartender and wanted to check out his comedy act. More than a hundred people, including bouquet-toting fans from as far away as Cazadero, enjoyed a fine time at the 2140 Market Club on a recent Monday night. No stranger to show business, Mills has worked as a joke writer for Carrie Snow, part of a trio comedy act, and he sings too.

Appearing first as the imposing figure of a reverse/perverse Ann Landers—Ann Slanders—Rick's drag looked like he'd been caught in an earthquake-sized scene with Richard Locke, and then gotten entangled in a Christmas Tree. One question for Ann Slanders: "Ann, is it possible to get pregnant on a toilet seat?" Ann: "Yes, but it's not very comfortable," and another named Debbie Taunt asked: "I'm twelve. What about heavy petting? My mother says no." Ann Slanders replied: "Debbie, your mother's right. The only thing you should be petting is your cat. You can touch your pussy but he can't."

The explanation for Rick's imposing figure became clear when he yanked off his Ann Slanders outfit to become Bruce, the Lambda Airlines steward. He had more than five costumes

on top of each other. And it was no slick Cage Aux Folles breakaway-type costuming either. Rick was on the floor on his back more than once, trying to get pants and skirts over his boots—wriggling around like a Klingon in heat. The highlight of the Lambda Airlines sketch was Bruce the Steward holding up a hairdryer and exclaiming: "In the event that turbulence messes up your 'do,' a vanity appliance will drop down from the overhead compartment."

'The crowd loved it all, even the hyper-crazed character switches.'

The crowd loved it all, even the hyper-crazed character switches. All through the show Rick was smiling, twisting his pumped-up body toward the eager onlookers. A unique feeling of togetherness evolved between performer and audience.

A few costumes later, Rick charged onto the stage as himself, the accommodating Castro Street bartender—with a bartray carrying three prescription drug cannisters. As the audience laughed louder and louder, he described how the first cannister got bartenders through their shift, the second was for when the boss announced he wanted everyone to work a double shift, and the third can-

ister was for when the boss came back an hour later and changed his mind. Rick declared, in a sincere tone, that his favorite machines at the gym dispensed sandwiches and gum balls. He said his poor background with lots of brothers and sisters didn't bother him so much because his older Lesbian sister gave him her plaid shirts.

The finale of Mills' performance exposed him in a provocative body-clinging white spermatozoa costume, furious

ly wrestling over a styrofoam "egg" while a guy in a pink spermatozoa outfit drove the crowd to a thunderous applause and tossed bouquets. Then it was over, not an unpleasant tease—with no stripdown to bare skin as suggested in the show publicity.

The show's production values were high—with superior lighting and sound by J.C. Associates. Mills stands quivering on the edge of an apparently well-deserved career as a comedian, if he can only overcome his distracting good looks and sexiness to convey the full range of his talent to larger and larger audiences. ■

Men in Tights

by Bernard Spunberg

Jugglers, men in tights, acrobats, men in tights, clowns, men in tights—I had a very nice time at the Pickle Family Circus. Of course, I might have had a better time if I were six years old. Though this is the circus' tenth anniversary season, I have just seen the Pickles for the first time. What have I been missing? Not too much, I think.

The best part of the show by far was the juggling. Though the performers used up their full quota of slips, the juggling from back-to-back, over-the-shoulders, and close-embrace positions were unexpected and impressive. The grand finale featuring a long line of jugglers, several of whom were perched on giant balls, was thrilling.

Acrobats and tumblers brought the recent Olympics to mind and suffered by comparison. The Pickles were okay, but they just weren't that exciting. Of course, a circus and the

Olympics have different purposes. At the circus, I want thrills and chills! Showmanship! Laughter!

Larry Pisoni and Geoff Hoyle are pretty famous as Lorenzo Pickle and Mr. Sniff, but I thought their routines were drawn out and not too funny. In general, the whole ensemble has lots of energy, good intentions, and reasonable competence, but little virtuosity.

The Pickles are innovative in their employment of women in non-traditional roles, and also in their high degree of active participation with the audience. I loved it when they bounced a gigantic balloon over the crowd. Simply everyone screamed. I loved the jugglers and the men in tights but, when the time was ripe, I was also pleased to see the Great Egress.

Pickle Family Circus
Palace of Fine Arts
Theater
Through December 30;
826-0747



Jay Laverdure of the Pickle Family Circus

TONE DEAF TONE DEAF TONE DEAF TONE DEAF TONE DEAF

Bonnie Pointer Aims for Solo Success

Even though 1984 was a vintage year for established recording artists, it failed to deliver Bonnie Pointer the solo success she is seeking, despite the fact that she is already a star as one of the Pointer Sisters.

As one of the Pointer Sisters, Bonnie has already collected a sizable chunk of notoriety and fame, but she says her solo career is a new beginning and that she wants to be successful in it.

Perhaps that sounds a bit greedy, but Bonnie Pointer is not out to collect awards. She says her efforts to achieve are a part of her character—to do the best she can do no matter what she's doing.

Unfortunately, her career as a solo artist has not been on the same level as that of the Pointer Sisters. The Pointer Sisters have been successful because they have chosen and produced material that is unique and interesting whether it be jazz, country, or pop music.

From the classy production of "Yes We Can Can" to the award-winning country hit "Fairytale," the Pointer Sisters have recorded several interesting and successful songs. Even

though Bonnie Pointer was a primary force for the Pointer Sisters, her solo career has thus far proved to be much less interesting.

Her main claim to fame has been the dance recording, "Heaven Must Have Sent You," which, although successful, was rather trite and lacked the class of the earlier Pointer Sisters material.

'She said she loved performing for a Gay audience because they know how to carry on . . .'

Jumping into a career as a Black female singer is a precarious move, since the demise of Disco and the fact that in that category one is competing against such clichés as Donna Summer and Diana Ross who've made a mockery of the category by pushing a good thing way too far.

During a recent interview, Pointer stressed the fact that her

Love and the 'Nuclear' Family

by Steve Warren

If critics gave prizes for marketing, *Handy Dandy* would get my vote for Play of the Year. Preview readings last October to benefit the nuclear freeze campaign secured the services of many top-flight performers who wouldn't have committed to a regular run of an untried play. The free shows (donations gratefully accepted) filled theaters with committed peaceniks who wouldn't otherwise have gone to a play they'd never heard of—perhaps wouldn't have gone to the theater at all—and their word of mouth has had all America waiting for a full production.

San Francisco is one of the first cities to see the staged *Handy Dandy*. It's not the heavy "message" play we were expecting, and that's both good news and bad news. Two hours of preaching wouldn't be entertainment, but there's not enough substance to this love story about the evolving (non-physical) relationship between a judge and a nun.

Henry is a 60-year-old, \$60,000-a-year judge who hides his feelings behind "three centuries of Anglo-Saxon jurisprudence . . . I call the balls and strikes. It's not up to me to change the law." His conscience is piqued by Molly, "an infirm, septuagenarian nun who thinks the world's going to end next Wednesday." She turns up repeatedly in his courtroom for trespassing in conjunction with anti-nuclear protests.

William Gibson's script brings in "Judge not lest ye be judged" but spares us "Forgive us our trespasses." We naturally side with Molly, even though—or because—she's borderline insane, while Henry represents order and rationality. "Everybody's crazy," he's concluded. "I used to think there were two kinds of people, crazy and not crazy, but it's not that complicated."

Henry tries to avoid jailing Molly, more in deference to her age and vocation than from sympathy to her cause, but she converts him by giving him the bishop's letter on nuclear disarmament to read during intermission.

There's an occasional line like "You rule according to the law, and the end of the world will be legal!" But the personalities overwhelm the nuclear issue, which is really just the excuse for "boy meets girl." Before becoming a nun, Molly had two abor-

tions and three husbands, one of the latter "a beautiful Jewish boy—like Jesus." Henry's wife left him after 30 years, and their son lives a continent away because he couldn't stand the succession of bimbos his father brought home.

The second act catches fire more often than the first, but the play overall is slightly anemic. The stars are certainly not to blame. Nehemiah Persoff is his usual reliable self, and Anne Shropshire is a revelation. It's not just her eyes that twinkle, but her every pore. How did she get to be so old and so good without me hearing of her? The two of them are worth seeing, even in a disappointing vehicle.

Handy Dandy is nearer *On Golden Pond* than *Dr. Strangelove*. Anti-nuclear activists will crave a stronger statement, while Reagan apologists who wander in by mistake will be offended by the play's four-letter words. The language will also upset many of the older people, who should form the primary audience for this gentle story of a man and a woman finding each other late in life. ■

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She said she loved performing for a Gay audience because they know how to carry on and have a good time.

Pointer just returned from a European tour, and will perform at the Galleria Design Center New Year's Eve for Conceptual Entertainments "The Sky's The Limit" party.

She said she loved performing for a Gay audience because they know how to carry on and have a good time.

Pointer, who was born and reared in Oakland, has been studying acting and plans to venture into that branch of the entertainment business someday.

Her latest venture has been recording the title song from *Heavenly Bodies*, the sequel to *Flashdance*. ■

TALES OF TESSI TURA

Answered Prayers

Recently, while interviewing artist Bill Moore—whose superb celebrity portraits are on display at Atlas Savings' main branch through Jan. 12—I listened to him describe his frequent reunions with college chums who always ask: "Hey, Bill, are you still doing your art?" Not only has Moore's art become his life's work, it has given him a personal means of soul searching and self-expression which delivers artistic and spiritual rewards on a scale far beyond the hefty fees he receives as financial compensation for each portrait.

For me, any theater is a sacred space and, like Moore, what was once my hobby has in recent years become my work. Today, sitting in an auditorium watching the house lights dim initiates a professional and personal ritual which occurs as regularly as the setting of the sun. Only recently, however, have I begun to comprehend that the ritual itself is a part of that crucial discovery process which includes personalizing one's faith in life and in the future. While some seek out answers to the problems they face by praying in a house of worship, I do my soul searching every season in theaters and opera houses across America as repeated encounters with familiar staples from the operatic repertoire enable me to draw new insights from old friends.

"Playgoers, I bid you welcome. The theater is a temple and we are here tonight to worship the gods of comedy and tragedy. We shall employ every device we know in our desire to divert you." Those words, taken from the opening moments of Stephen Sondheim's *A Funny*

Thing Happened on the Way to the Forum, took on a new and extremely poignant meaning for me in 1984 as I finally understood the blessed bounty of a ritual which has dominated my life for the past 20 years.

RITES OF PASSAGE

The opera world has been changing rapidly during the past decade and, as the profession has continued to grow, so has the competition. Determined to build their careers on native soil, newer generations of talented young American singers have sought to gain employment as well as recognition for their art. Most major cities in America can now lay claim to one or more opera companies so that, concurrent with the decline in the number of genuine divas, one sees an increase in the number of theaters demanding their services. Last, but not least, those superstars who have been household names for the past two decades are almost all in the twilight years of their performing careers. (Leontyne Price's Jan. 3 performance at the Met will mark that great artist's farewell to the operatic stage.)

Often, friends ask me why I don't aspire to become the music critic for a daily newspaper. The answer is simple: For the past nine years I've had too much leeway to write as I choose. Part of the artistic freedom which came with the creation of this column was the chance to review those performances which piqued my interest as opposed to being assigned to cover any and all musical events within my local jurisdiction. My own personal choices have since dictated the use of that privilege to docu-

ment certain aspects of the growth of opera as a popular art form in America (some 44% of this nation's professional opera companies were founded during the 1970s). As a freelance writer, my independence and mobility have also given me ample means to compare the San Francisco Opera's artistic output with the way opera is currently being produced in other cities.

It's no secret that the San Francisco Opera's 1984 fall season was a disaster of epic proportions. From beginning to end, it sucked. While those who were only able to experience opera on a local scale had little source for making comparisons, rest assured that in recent months the San Francisco Opera has too often been regarded as the laughing stock, if not the artistic disgrace, of the nation's professional opera community. It's bad enough to listen to so many distressed queries from subscribers and professionals who all want to know "What's wrong with the San Francisco Opera?" But when the intricacies of a fucked-up season are being discussed so vehemently on the streets of San Francisco and New York, then there is indeed cause for grave concern.

TOMORROW IS ANOTHER DAY

A friend recently told me that, considering the way much of the 1984 season sounded, he felt we were really better off *not* having any broadcasts from the San Francisco Opera this year. And, despite all the malicious gossip about Terry McEwen's personal laziness, I suppose the nadir of cynicism occurred when one artists' representative insinuated that the company was really being run by the general director's executive secretary, Marian Lever. Whether or not this is true, one must face the fact that there is a distinct lack of leadership at the helm of the San Francisco Opera and that its trickle-down effect is becoming more evident as each month progresses. I doubt McEwen's success at fundraising has been anything near what it should be. It is obvious that this once august company's artistic standards have taken an alarming and inexcusable nosedive.

Yet, despite all of this gloom and doom—and amidst continued speculation that McEwen will not last much longer on the job—I'm going to go out on a limb and make a New Year's prediction that



Soprano Helga Dernesch (shown as Marfa in Mussorgsky's *Khovanshchina*) was one of the few assets of the 1984 San Francisco Opera's fall season.

Terry will survive and squeak by. Let's give him the benefit of a major doubt. Perhaps it was necessary for the San Francisco Opera to bite both the financial and artistic bullets and produce something on the order of provincial shit in order to get out of debt. If, as McEwen claims, the company is now in the black, he will certainly have enough financial statistics at his disposal with which to pacify his board of directors, who are primarily concerned with bottom line accounting rather than any sense of artistic integrity.

The 1985 Summer Festival, with its emphasis on Wagner's Ring of the Nibelung, will finally restore an identity of its own to this company. That alone will be cause for immense personal relief after having watched so many pictures of Luciano Pavarotti get shoved down the

public's throat that I was beginning to wonder if that highly unreliable artist was supposed to embody the whole of the San Francisco Opera. In addition, the proposed 1985 fall season looks a lot more solid than this past one. Perhaps by that point McEwen will have sufficiently cleaned up his act so that company staff members can go back to expressing genuine pride in their product and the San Francisco Opera can once again legitimately claim its artistic output is first rate.

Although I yearn to see such changes take place with the start of the New Year, at this point all I can really do is keep my fingers crossed and pray: For myself, for McEwen, and for the artistic health of the San Francisco Opera. ■

G. Heymont

orchestra at the opera house listening to *Don Giovanni*.

Opera snobs were horrified. They assured me an opera virgin such as myself would be bored to tears. Don't see something so "heavy" your first time, they said. Go see the *Nutcracker*. See something fun. Mozart's operas are too "arid" they said. What does that mean? Aridarias.

I like harpsichords and chamber music and 15th Century flutes and drums and especially do I like Mozart (the younger one). The night before I crammed like it was college exam week. My roommate Todd had the libretto (that's all the words they sing) which included both Italian and an English translation. The story was relatively simple. George summarizes it as "a stiff cock has no conscience." I would call it, "Guess Who's Coming to Dinner."

I purloined a floor-length black cashmere coat with wide, wide cuffs and called it opera-length. Come 8 o'clock on Friday night there I was ready to go.

It was like the music of angels, the earth and things below all on the same bill. I loved it. Some of the music chilled my spine. A couple of movements moved me to tears.

I must confess that frequently I tuned out the singers—

especially the women—and tuned in the orchestra. I was all alone with Mozart. I realized recorded opera and live opera have a big difference. In recordings, the singers are louder relative to the orchestra. From my seat, they were perfectly balanced, and I could focus on one, the other, or both.

By the time the stone-faced old Comandant made his reappearance, I was enraptured by it all. His one low note filled the entire house—and not with volume. No, it was sadness, and remorse, and basso, and I'm gonna get you good, all rolled into one resonating note. The type of thing you feel as well as hear. The type of thing you experience.

So now we're going to see the movie *Carmen*. Soon, I hope, I'll be somewhere I can see *The Marriage of Figaro*.

I was discussing all this about midnight Friday at the corner of 18th and Castro as I went home from the opera. I was grand in my long black coat talking about arias. A friend of mine interrupted.

"Are you becoming one of them? Oh God."

Maybe I'm crossing a line here or something. We'll see. ■

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The Killing Fields

One From the Heart

This is what is colloquially called a heavy film. Full of conscience and cerebral demands, *The Killing Fields* compels us to take a look at personal responsibilities for fellow man. While one wouldn't purposely go to this film expecting entertainment, it is to director Roland Joffe's credit that he makes this 240-minute film as riveting and attention grabbing as it is.

Just how emotionally affected you are by the film's story of *New York Times* reporter Sydney Schanberg and his friendship with his Cambodian guide Dith Pran depends a lot on how much you are moved by man's inhumanity to man on large and small scales.

Schanberg, portrayed with gripping conviction by Sam Waterson, was a 1972 war correspondent in Cambodia. Pran, played heart wrenchingly by Haing S. Ngor, was the reporter's interpreter, troubleshooter, and personal friend. But when political events in the war-torn country (reverberations from the neighboring Vietnam war) forced all foreign journalists out of the country,

Schanberg, despite valiant attempts, had to leave Pran behind to a certain fate of torture or death.

The film establishes the situation that cemented their friendship, then shows the mental and physical pain each endured with their separation. For Schanberg, it was the insomnia-wracked, relentless guilt of not helping his friend; for Pran it was the torture of a communist concentration camp until his escape four years later.

With a title like *The Killing Fields*, it's inevitable that this would be an unnervingly grim film, sharp in its depiction of the devastation of people and land that inexplicably war caused. The film is made with such calculated courage and agonizing conscience that it demands admiration for its intent. Despite this it is not always moving, no doubt because it is a wounding decade since the events.

Nevertheless it works on so many other levels that you cannot fail to be affected by its strength.

(Galaxy)

M. Lasky



Haing S. Ngor (l.) and Sam Waterson in *The Killing Fields*.

Protocol

Hawn the Pawn

The proper protocol for this comedy, written specifically for Goldie Hawn, is don't upset the producer. The producer is the star, and while it worked splendidly with Hawn's earlier film, *Private Benjamin*, here things get a tad out of control occasionally.

Reviewer's protocol compels me to point out the good and bad of a film, the things for which you will be spending your \$5. First and foremost, if you

are a Goldie Hawn fan, you must see this film. She employs her full range of talent, from the "silly little me" girliness of her *Laugh In* days, to her more controlled timing that helps make *Private Benjamin* so successful.

With a script by Buck Henry and direction by Herbert Ross, you would think that nothing could go wrong. Wrong.

The sometimes witty and pointed dialogue and clever sight gags take elevator shifts in their intent and effectiveness as the film falls into momentary fits of inappropriate silliness. And,

as is often the case in custom made star vehicles, the star allows little room for the other talented actors to show off.

Protocol has Hawn as a cocktail waitress in a sleazy bar who unwittingly foils the assassination of an Emir of a small Arab state. The U.S. government and the press turn her into a celebrity. The State Department hires her for the diplomatic corps, with the ulterior motive of pawing her off in marriage to the Emir in exchange for a strategic military base.

Predictably, Hawn haphazardly dis-

covers what's up, speaks up patriotically, gets her love interest, and gets comeuppance on the baddies, played with style by Gail Strickland and Cliff De Young. One nice attribute of the film is its pleasant, surprisingly natural attitude towards Gays. The story has Hawn living with two men who are lovers, and her So What attitude about

it is carried throughout the proceedings, even into a scene where the Gays bring their friends to a party where they interact with the Arabs.

Protocol is an uneven film, but considering the competition this Christmas, that is not particularly odd.

(Galaxy)

M. Lasky



Goldie Hawn shows what it takes to make a good diplomat in *Protocol*.

A Passage to India

Class Distinction

Within a recent 24-hour period, I spent two hours watching the beginning of *The Jewel in the Crown* and nearly three watching Sir David Lean's *A Passage to India*, learning more than I cared to in the process about the history of relationships between English women and Indian men. I thought *Jewel* was slow, but compared to *Passage* it moves like *Indiana Jones*.

Each film is a credit to its medium in certain respects. Lean, who has given the big screen a number of extravagant epics, stages spectacular scenes in the sort the miniseries only suggests with old newsreels. After 14 years in retirement, Lean must have been shocked to see how costs have

escalated; but, unlike the directors of recent disasters in the \$40-50 million range, he gets his money's worth and puts it all on the screen.

Unfortunately, Lean's script in this case isn't worth the trouble. It's 1928 and the "Free India" movement hasn't gotten very far. Judy Davis plays passage to India in pursuit of her fiance Nigel Havers. She's accompanied by his mother, the marvelous Dame Peggy Ashcroft. Being new to India, the women haven't accepted the racial snobbery of their peers, so they befriend a doctor played by Victor Banerjee, who looks like an anorexic Pavarotti.

Their acquaintance climaxes at an outing that seems as mysterious as the Picnic at Hanging Rock, but is more or less explained through a courtroom sequence. We are left with too many questions about Davis' character, while Banerjee makes a believable

transition from an Uncle Tom to an equally unpleasant militant. Sir Alec Guinness is wasted in a recurring cameo as an "inscrutable Brahman," a clownlike figure who might be offensively stereotypical to Indians, despite the film's anti-British leanings—or Lean-ings.

Davis' resemblance to a younger, less attractive Julie Christie is a constant reminder of the less ambitious but more successful East-West film *Heat and Dust*. If the music sounded any more like that of *Ryan's Daughter*, Maurice Jarre could sue himself.

A Passage to India is about class, and the class Sir David Lean has put into it raises it above 98 percent of what's on the screen today, even if many of the other films are more enjoyable.

(Cinema 21)

S. Warren

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REVIEWS BY MICHAEL LASKY AND STEVE WARREN

Johnny Dangerously

More Mr. Nice Guy

Much of the humor in *Johnny Dangerously* is of the same type as *Airplane!*—but there's not as much of the humor in *Johnny Dangerously*. When a gag falls flat there aren't three more coming along to back it up.

In exchange—and a fair exchange it is—*Johnny D* has Michael Keaton in the title role of the nicest gangster who ever took New York for all it's worth. Told in flashbacks, the story starts with Johnny as an honest kid: "If I broke the law it'd be like breakin' my mother's heart." His mother (Maureen Stapleton) needs an operation, so he earns some easy money the hard way with the Jocko Dundee (Peter Boyle) mob, "the New York Yankees of crime."

Johnny's longtime nemesis, who also joins the gang, is Danny Vermillion (Joe Piscopo), a self-proclaimed "real scumbag" who says, "Dames are put on this earth to . . . drain our energy and laugh at us when we're naked." Johnny's favorite "dame" is Lil (Marilu Henner), a singer who "just blew in from Pittsburgh." The fly in the ointment is the kid brother (Griffith Dunne) Johnny put through law school. He's joined the D.A.'s staff and started fighting crime with a vengeance.

The movie rolls along pleasantly with some good laughs along the way, although too many jokes rely on anachronisms and a talking parrot. Most of the players don't have to work very hard—Don DeLuise gets star billing for less than a minute on screen. Ultimately, *Johnny Dangerously* stands or falls on Michael Keaton's ingratiating personality. That leaves it standing tall, although I think I'm going to get tired of him before long.

This should be another hit for Amy Heckerling, currently Hollywood's most successful female director. ■

(Alexandria, Serramonte) S. Warren

Swann In Love

Proust Takes a Dive

Those who have never read Proust—and there are more of us than will admit it—will feel justified after seeing Volker Schlöndorff's *Swann in Love*, adapted from the first portion of *Remembrance of Things Past*.

This opulent bore coasts for a few minutes on its visuals—the costumes and settings of 1885 Paris—and on the presence of Alain Delon, cast against type as the Gay Baron Charlus.

Swann, unfortunately, is played by Jeremy Irons, who can be the most boring actor alive unless he's playing opposite interesting people (e.g., Anthony Andrews, Meryl Streep) in intriguing situations. Here he's trapped in an obsessive, "inoperable" love for Odette (Ornella Muti), a social-climbing slut. "To a dog in love a bitch's ass smells sweet," says Oriane (Fanny Ardant), who is also interested in *Swann*.

While *Swann* doesn't mind Odette being a whore, the idea that she may have had some Lesbian encounters freaks him out. He goes to a brothel to relieve his frustration, but neither he nor the woman he fucks in the ass seems to find much excitement there.

The Baron, meanwhile, talks about how some men sublimate in such hobbies as art and gardening when what they really want is other men. He picks up a young Jewish student (Nicolas Baby), who rejects his advances after they spend the day together.

Except for an epilogue, the events of *Swann in Love* occur within 24 hours. That doesn't keep it from seeming as endless as *Endless Love*, another story of obsession.

Proust's specialty was interior monologue. Schlöndorff has failed in his attempt to create an interesting work by externalizing it. ■

(Clay) S. Warren



Picture Perfect—The visit of the radiant Sabine Azema is a gift of life to her father, Louis Ducreux, and to Bertrand Tavernier's *A Sunday in the Country*. Steve Warren's choice for Best Picture of 1984.

A Sunday In The Country

Champagne pour
"Campagne"

and three children. They have a dull lunch and everyone, including the audience, is lulled into an afternoon nap.

But the *adagio* soon ends and the *Scherzo* begins with the arrival of Irene (Sabine Azema), the volatile, unconventional daughter. She doesn't visit often, but she really loves her father and keeps him youthful instead of easing him toward the grave as her brother does. Irene expects too much—"I want to live my life as I dreamed it"—while Gonzague is a quitter, a loser who settles for whatever fate hands him.

Lest we think Tavernier is making value judgments, we can't forget that the siblings are two sides of the same coin—Ladimir. Like most people, he has the seeds of both within him. Many of us follow Gonzague while quietly envying the Irenes of the world who live life on their own terms.

Since Truffaut's death I look every-

where for signs of his influence, and *A Sunday in the Country* is a film he could have made. It's a gentle, human comedy with no villains, and it has a narrator who sounds somewhat like Rod Sermier and says things like "(When trying to ignore an unpleasant idea) . . . he (M. Ladimir) stared hard at the landscape and thought of nothing but the colors of things."

Also reminiscent of Truffaut are the fadeouts between scenes, the camera that occasionally drifts in apparent idleness like an old man's thoughts, and the overall assurance that goes with total mastery of the medium.

The manipulation of color produces some extraordinary effects, and will probably suggest specific artists to those with more knowledge in that area than I.

A Sunday in the Country is an instant classic that should endure as long as film itself. ■

(Four Star)

S. Warren

THANK YOU

With the holiday season upon us, we at Shanti Project want to say something important to you that has been on our minds and in our hearts for some time.

TO OUR COMMUNITY: You have been magnificent throughout this difficult time. We are proud to be a part of a community that has responded to human need in so many ways. Donations of goods and services have helped us provide important services to people with AIDS and their loved ones. Your generous contributions have provided us financial support and stability. Your spirit of giving has made the difference. Please know that you are deeply appreciated by all of us at Shanti.

TO OUR CITY: No other city in the world has responded financially to the AIDS crisis as generously as has San Francisco. Shanti funding from the City has been significant and without it much support to persons with AIDS could not have been provided. All those who have spoken on our behalf have our deepest gratitude.

TO OUR VOLUNTEERS: This year you have given over 60,000 hours of direct service to persons with AIDS and their loved ones. You have demonstrated great courage in going past your own fear to be there for your brothers and sisters. We are truly in awe of what you have done and we love you.

TO OUR CLIENTS: Last, and most important, to those who have AIDS and to their loved ones, thank you. Thank you for sharing your courage and love with us. Thank you for giving us perspectives on living and loving we wouldn't have discovered without you. Thank you for touching our hearts, opening our minds and feeding our souls.

With love and affection,

The Board and Staff of Shanti Project



Shanti volunteers provide important emotional support to persons with AIDS and their loved ones.



Six Shanti residences provide permanent homes for persons with AIDS.



Shanti practical support volunteers do shopping, cleaning and other tasks for persons with AIDS.



Shanti staff provides counseling for persons with AIDS at San Francisco General Hospital.

 **Shanti Project**
Affection not Rejection
558-9644

BAY AREA REPORTER

SPORTS & FITNESS

FITNESS EIGHTIES

Karen Heald

Karate or Cycling, Which is Better?

by Paul Trefzger

When I met Karen for this interview, at the Village Deli on Castro St., it turned out I was the after dinner agenda for her and her lover, Kathy Lanterman. It was Kathy's 25th birthday celebration.

Karen had difficulty in deciding which she preferred, cycling or Karate. I'm convinced she, if forced to choose between the two, could not.

"It varies," she started off. "They both process your feelings of stress and are aerobic."

But she was anxious to talk about and show me photos of a bicycling trip, more correctly a "bike tour" she and her lover took together between July 1 and Sept. 1.

The two met cycling.

"We'd known each other a couple of years," Heald said. "We found that we rode at the same pace. We'd generally be ahead or at least at a different pace from our friends. So we'd wind up spending the whole day together. We'd chat and got to really know each other and realized that we talked easily. We've been together since last May. That's when it became 'official.' Then we went away together in July. After two months sharing a tent, we know each other pretty well."

"We cooked our own food," Lanterman said. "We'd experience the little nasty parts of each others' temperaments. One of the hardest things was the realization that there's no gay community out there."

But that was a fleeting thing. They went on to say that one of the most exciting things about the tour "was the people we met."

"Here we were, two women," Heald said. "Almost everyone else was just guys or couples. Not once were we hassled. We were thinking, 'Now this is redneck country,' but people were really nice, particularly Oregon and Montana. They love cyclists. They offered us rides, which we didn't take, gave us things, bargain rates. We'd come up to a motel, dirty, ugly, sweaty, and they were so friendly. We were caked with mud and so were our bikes and they'd put us, everything into a motel room."

This was no casual run. We're talking 2,000 miles here. They started in Portland, then to northern Montana, through Yellowstone, the Tetons, Flaming Gorge, Oregon coast, Glaciers, the Cascades in eastern Oregon and Utah. They wound up in Grand Junction, Colorado, Karen's home town. The two took mainly back roads, never freeways. Of course in the national parks there'd be only one way in and out.

"We went over ten major passes and a lot of minor passes," Kathy added, "and we were 'self-contained.' We had fully packed bikes." They travelled 50 to 60 miles a day and would rest one day a week.

Heald spoke of the effect on her body.

"My body composition changed," she said. "I'm prone to gaining weight on my hips. At

the end of the trip there was none. We ate like pigs. Three sandwiches for lunch. You can burn five to ten thousand calories. We consumed that much. But you keep going, and burn it up. It's totally aerobic. I have never in any of my sports felt so pushed physically as climbing some of those passes. We'd be gasping. My heart rate was close to 200."

Prior to the tour they'd been doing 60 to 100 miles a weekend with different bicycle groups around the Bay Area.

"I was raised in a competitive family," Heald recalls of her childhood in Grand Junction, a recreation-oriented town with a population of 60,000. The chief competition, it seems, was an older brother, four years her senior, now 31.

"He was excellent at baseball and football, an All-American," Heald said. "He had all these trophies. My parents neither encouraged nor discouraged our competitiveness. It began for me when I was little and I'd catch for him when he pitched. I was too young and naive to realize that he couldn't get anyone else to catch because he pitched so hard and fast. I took quite a few knocks. He was aware I liked to compete. He'd even drag me along to play football because I was mean and he liked me on his team. In school, when I became aware that I couldn't compete with him in sports—no girl's teams then—and get the trophies and no chance of getting an athletic scholarship, I went into speech and debate and won my trophies that way. I quit when I had one more trophy than he did. I was a sophomore in college (University of New Mexico, major in Nursing) and he was out of school, so I knew I had him.

"I'm a recovering alcoholic," Heald continued. "When I got out of college I just quit everything (constructive) for six years."

It was a time of booze and drugs.

"I've been sober and clean four years," Heald said. "I took exercise up as a therapeutic modality. The first two years it was just softball because I knew how to play and I built on that. The whole team was clean and dry."

I asked what turned her around.

"Nothing was working in my life," Heald said. "I was unhappy and tired of living."

It's obvious things have changed.

"The things I've done in the past two years are things I've always dreamed about doing—bicycling and martial arts—but I just had never taken the initiative to follow through," she



Karen Heald (l.) and Kathy Lanterman on a recent cross-country bicycle trip.

said. "When I realized how important doing the things I want to do, being who I want to be, is to my sense of well being, I was able to play and to accomplish the things I wanted to."

The key is to get out and do it. Start with a little bit and then expand it. If you want to sail, take a sailing course. I did."

Heald lifts weights but, "In order of importance, it's Karate first," she said. "But when spring comes . . . the scenery, and cycling's so relaxing. With bicycling, the things I enjoy: you're outdoors, there's aerobic activity, pretty environments, it's therapeutic, builds body tone. You can see the results. You process your stress."

"Karate on the other hand, though it's not outdoors, you still process your feelings, and it's aerobic, the same things but it also teaches you 'focus.' When you're inside the 'dojo' you leave everything else outside, such as your ego, competition. There's

intensity, but it's on doing the movement and on doing it the best you can. There have been times when I've not had my focus and it was obvious that I lacked the form or the power. It's something you learn and I have a long way to go."

"When I started softball after being in Gloria Boldizar's Kempo Karate class, my average was better, after not having played during the off-season. I was more consistent. I moved up in the batting order. Others noticed the difference, too. I attributed it to focus."

"The outfielders even moved back then. Karate's everything. It's mind, body, and spirit. I'm not sure it affects the way I relate to Kathy, but it does to the way I relate to people on the street. Now, I've never carried myself like a 'victim.' I've always looked like a little butch. But I think I look and act stronger and I am more self-confident."

I asked about the self-defense

part of Karate.

"It's a mental and a physical self-confidence," Heald said. "It's hitting a target, defending yourself, and it's an integrating of body and mind."

"One important thing for me, neither is competitive," Heald continued. "I'm an extremely competitive, aggressive person. Through both, I've learned to not be competitive, but still to do well and enjoy it."

Then Karen paid the bill and she and Kathy were off to celebrate Kathy's birthday—at Karate class.

P. Trefzger

Changed Location

The San Francisco Hiking Club will meet at 260 Hartford St. Thursday, Dec. 27 at 7:30 p.m., not at 1833 Page St. as was listed in the *Bay Area Reporter*.

Bowler of the Year

The following 16 bowlers have been nominated by their fellow league bowlers as best representing the spirit of Gay bowling: Jim Barnes, Tom Begano, Morgan Chase, Skip Christian, Pat Conlon, Jerry De Young, Michael Haggert, Rick Johnson, Rob Mallin, Robert Montaldo, Ray Padua, Danny Perez, Keith Ray, Paul Skinner, Roger Spencer, Ron Squires.

The Cable Car Awards Sportsman of the Year in the bowling category will be chosen from the above line-up. The decision will be based on such factors as the person's attitude, contributions made to the sport of bowling over the years, and numerous other considerations.

At the Cable Car Awards ceremony, which will be held at the Kabuki Theatre, Japantown, starting 7 p.m. on Feb. 2, there will be four tables of avid bowlers to support the winning candidate.

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SCOREBOARD

JAPANTOWN BOWL COMMUNITY LEAGUES BOWLING

Team Standings and Personal Achievements

SUNDAY RENO LEAGUE (Week 7 of 24 - as of 12/09/84)

1. Vagabond	22	6
2. Phuckett!!!!	19	9
3. ?Lucky 13	19	5
4. "Alley Cats"	18	10
5. Strange Interlude	15	13
6. Gaysha Boys	14½	13½
7. Myrna's Boys	13	15
8. Lois Lanes	12	16
9. Bowling Is Not My Life!	11	17
10. Team #3	10	18
11. Dice'd Dolls	9	15
12. Things Go Brr w/Coke	9	19
13. With Colour	7½	16½
14. Reno, Reno is . . .	7	17

HIGH SCRATCH GAME

Jim Barnes (M.B.'s)	256
Richard Harry (Vaga)	220
Myrna McSpareen (M.sBys)	209
Rick Perez (?L13)	206
Ray Padus (Phuck)	203
Mary Garrette (Phuck)	202

HIGH SCRATCH SERIES

Jim Barnes (M.B.'s)	631
Whirl Gray (Phuck)	570
Richard Harry (Vaga)	564
Myrna McSpareen (M.sBys)	561
Ray Padus (Phuck)	556
Mary Garrette (Phuck)	509

HAWAII VACATION LEAGUE (Week 14 of 37 - as of 12/14/84)

1. Puhio's	39	17
2. Play With It, Ltd.!!	34	22
3. The Handy-Caps	31	25
4. Lady and the Tramps	31	25
5. Mane Islanders	30	22
6. El Rio II	29½	26½
7. Stella's Ducks	27	29
8. 2 + 2	24	32
9. El Rio Tartarugas #1	19	37
10. Scottie's Alley-Oops	10½	41½

MONDAY COMMUNITY LEAGUE (Week 9 of 29 - as of 12/10/84)

1. Bow - K	26½	9½
2. Play With It, Ltd.	26	6
3. Dish	25	11
4. Sutter's Mill	24	12
5. Yeah!!!	24	12
6. Play With It, Please	23	13
7. All The President's Men	19½	16½
8. "Pick-Up's"	17	19
9. New York Man	17	19
10. Short Circuits	17	19
11. Rick's Rompers	16	20
12. Trash-Lottas	14	22
13. Team #17	14	18
14. Blazers	13½	22½
15. Rick's	13	23
16. Damaged Goods	10	26
17. The Obelisk	10	26
18. Castro Country Club	8½	27½

TUESDAY COMMUNITY LEAGUE (Week 10 of 29 - as of 12/11/84)

1. Shud-A-Bin	29	11
2. Split	28½	11½
3. Guys & Balls	25	15
4. 5 Easy Pieces	24	16
5. Ringold Rollers	22	18
6. Late Nite Rollers	21	19
7. Crisco Kids	21	19
8. Lady & The Tramps	20	20
9. 00000's	19	21
10. Phoenix Phantoms	19	21
11. Easy Pick-Ups	18	22
12. Hopeless	18	22
13. Overnights	18	22
14. Team #7	17	23
15. Oh Merde!	17	23
16. Ethel	16	24
17. "Not Easy"	15½	24½
18. Shanti - T.A.'s	12	28

WEDNESDAY COMMUNITY LEAGUE (Week 11 of 32 - as of 12/12/84)

1. Sutter's Mill - I	30½	13½
2. High Gear	30	14
3. Bananas Without Attitude	29	15
4. Church Street Station	28	16
5. Rag-Tags	26	18
6. The Pimento	25	19
7. 4 Coachmen + One	25	19
8. Stud City	24	20
9. Pilser Vultures	23	21
10. Quite Fire	22	22
11. 5 Not So Easy Pieces	20½	23½
12. Sutter's Mill Also	20	24
13. Thing!!!	18	26
14. Pinheads II	17	27
15. Rockin' Rollers	17	27
16. Gutter Girls	17	27
17. Salsa Supremes	16	28
18. White Swallow	10	34

THURSDAY COMMUNITY LEAGUE (Week 11 of 32 - as of 12/13/84)

1. Pendulums	3	14
2. 2 Lefts + A Right	28	15
3. Vagabond	26	18
4. Pilser Kingpins	24	20
5. Twin Peaks Douglettes	23½	20½
6. Old Rick's Gold Room	19½	24½
7. Pendulum #1	19	25
8. Pendulum Spare Parts	16	28
9. Team #3	15	29
10. Pilser 2	13	31

HIGH SCRATCH SERIES

Morgan Chase (PKs)	662
Jim Wright (2L&R)	617
Richard Harry (Vaga)	611

Compiled by Jerry R. De Young



The Gay Gators pose with Sharon McNight after their defeat at the hands of the Sheriff's Deputies. (Photo: Rink)

More Gators

More From the Team That Couldn't Lose for Winning

by Paul Trefzger

ED NOTE: We were so impressed by the spirit evoked by the new Gay flag football team, Gay Gators, even when trounced 48-6 by the Sheriff's Deputies in its debut game, that we decided to try to build on that football spirit by highlighting some of the players who lost so nobly.

VINCE ALIRE

Alire, 26, stands 6'2", and has brown hair and eyes. Although he's a native San Franciscan, he lives in San Bruno because "it's a more relaxed atmosphere." His school sports were track and basketball.

Alire studied Aircraft Maintenance at the College of San Mateo, and is an aircraft mechanic at Oakland Airport.

As we talked *Super Sax*, a jazz lp, played in the background. He said he plays "music on the side. I've had a few bands." A little reluctant to discuss something that isn't currently a reality, Alire talked enthusiastically nonetheless.

"What I'd like to do someday is get together a big band (with an emphasis on jazz), mainly of

Gay people, a fifteen to twenty piece standard band."

A Charlie Parker devotee, he studied music in college and currently sits in or runs bands "around the Bay Area, mainly on the peninsula." His school sports were track and basketball.

Alire's position with the Gators was tight end or wide receiver, which is fine with him. He made the only Gator touchdown of the game. I quizzed him as to his reasons for fac-

"I really enjoy football," he said. "And it was a charity event. I liked the idea of participating in Gay sports." Reflecting on the game, he said, "I was really glad about the people who came out to see us. I was glad we scored points, that we did it and showed them that we could score points. You know, there's a lot of incredible Gay athletes out there. I know. I've played some Gay basketball, too. Well, they ought to come out and play."

For fitness, Alire goes "to the gym once or twice a month, and I jog or run once or twice a month. I play basketball on my lunch hour with some other guys at work. The last couple of months I've been playing touch football with some friends out here (San Bruno). I don't have to worry about my weight. I eat about anything I want to."

BERNARD TURNER

Turner is probably known to San Francisco sports enthusiasts not only from his participation and accomplishments in the Gay games, but from numerous track and field awards since—a gold medal at the SF Footlocker Indoor Classic '84, two silver medals at the Sacramento Relays, four gold medals at the Diablo Valley College track meet, twice 5th in the US National Submasters Championships, and a 5th for the US National Corporation Cup Championships, representing his

employer, Bank of America. Turner is 35, 6' tall, and weighs 170 pounds. He lives in Noe Valley but is from Chicago. In his younger days, he also wrestled and played football. He studied Business at Loop College and is in Investment Securities at the B of A. His ambition is, he says, that "I would like to be an openly Gay national champion."

For the Gators, he's played defensive back, tight-end, and he said he is comfortable with those positions.

"We need more practice," Turner said about the Gators. "Practice, practice, practice. With something like this, in time you learn that certain people have certain skills and they should be used to their best advantage. I came out for this team because I used to play a lot of football. When I came to San Francisco there was no one to play with. When the team started in the spring, I was involved with track. Then when I read about the game this fall I thought, here's my chance. And it was for AIDS. Teamwise, I thought I could help out, particularly on defense. We could have used more practice, but taking that into consideration and the fact that some linemen showed up the day of the game and hadn't played in years, I think that we did outstandingly well. You have to run plays over and over until you have them down and don't have to think about what you're doing. We had little pieces of paper in the huddle! Then you consider the Deputies' weight and the fact that they came into it, let's say more overly aggressive than we. The next time we can use this to our advantage. We need a basic core of people to play together for a long period of time and work at the skilled positions. I'd really like to see games within the Gay community and for fun, people not worrying about making mistakes, women playing, people who've never played before."

Needless to say, for fitness, Turner runs, but alternates his schedule for speed and endurance. He also has a set of weights at home.

"I like hiking, rock concerts," Turner said. "I like to go out dancing. A hobby of mine is working with local rock bands." One he's currently working with is the Kameleons, which appear around town at clubs such as Mabuhay Gardens. His philosophy, he said is that, "If I become involved in something, I give 100 percent. Take it to the limit."

Think the Unthinkable.



Then do the do-able.

The unthinkable is the rejection and isolation that can accompany a diagnosis of AIDS. The do-able is a little time and concern from all of us.

Shanti volunteers provide emotional and practical support for people with AIDS and their loved ones. Volunteers needed now. Call for more information.

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BAY AREA REPORTER

B.A.R. BAZAAR

MR. MARCUS



Wring Out the Old Ring In the New

We're fast approaching the end of the year and everyone's ambivalent in their assessment of the past 12 months. But it's not over yet, and there are a few scenarios to be played out. The weather has been chilly but sunny, and we've not had to endure blizzards, snowstorms (there IS a difference you know) or excessive rain or mine disasters. This Gay community has shown over and over its generosity in all the AIDS benefits, and no one can complain about that. It does one's heart good to see so many of our brothers pouring money into the various projects de-

their loved one, and there's always the inevitable post-mortem for each death. So the volunteer counselors deserve high praise for their dedication, caring, and love of humanity. What I'm trying to say is that in spite of all the other things in progress around us, both Gay and straight issues, there are those who are working hard to make life better, easier, less lonely, and more uplifting for the others around us who have had the misfortune of becoming sick. The generosity of all our Gay brothers and sisters was most evident this Christmas with many parties and gifts for

'What I'm trying to say is . . . there are those who are working hard to make life better, easier, less lonely . . .'

signed to make life a little more pleasant for people with AIDS. While everyone involved with putting on benefits should be highly commended for their efforts, there is always one, maybe two unsung heroes that stand out. One of these is Alan Selby, the proprietor of Mister S Products. As a member of the Board of Directors of the SF AIDS Fund, Alan has demonstrated a profound sense of altruistic dedication in his efforts to round up prizes, solicit donations, and gingerly sidestep any political faux pas that could easily occur when dealing with a myriad of personalities. It takes a certain amount of expertise to deal with so many different people on so many different levels when you are trying to raise needed funds. He has worked many long hours and spent considerable time on the phone soliciting gifts and ads and even though his business phone is in use mainly in AIDS business, he managed to keep the shop open and operating. So to all of the people, little and large, who help to make these benefits successes, the entire community owes a huge debt of gratitude. In spite of the bitchiness, ego trips, name calling, hurt feelings, and other maladies that surface during the course of events, the job DOES get done. The funds are raised and put to immediate use where needed. The dedicated counselors at Shanti deserve high praise for their many hours of training and then going out to work with the patients and their families. After each experience, many have second doubts about the role they are playing, but these days, there is always another person with AIDS who needs their help. There is always another family who is bewildered by the turn of events of

the patients in Ward 5-B, in the private homes, and in the hospices of the area. Those of you who could afford it contributed and for that alone, those striving for success in their efforts to alleviate the burdens of the afflicted are thankful. Yes we love

So 1985 is standing in the wings. For bartenders all over the country, New Year's Eve is the ultimate *Amateur Night of the Year*, as that's when the teetotaler next door, up the street, and the one that flew in from Red Oak, Iowa go out and tie one on. Champagne will flow



Happy New Year from Mr. Marcus (Photo: R. Prauzan)

them. Yes we care for them. Yes we will not stop. Yes we will continue until this dreaded plague is wiped out. And yes, we appreciate people like Alan Selby, the Shanti volunteer counselors and most of all YOU—for caring.

★ ★ ★

Are you aware of the Gay TV show on Viacom Cable 6 every week? It airs at 10 p.m. on Wednesdays and at 10:20 on Fridays. Tom Rosso, the guiding light behind the show, is putting together some of the funniest bits of news, gossip, and camp to come out of Our Town, New York, and Atlanta. One of

at the Arena and the SF-Eagle. South of Market will be the staging area for most of you, with Sanford Kellman's "So Many Men" party at the Gift Center Pavilion with Evelyn Thomas and Linda Clifford performing. Over at the Galleria, David Bandy has lined up Bonnie Pointer as the star attraction. LaPointer will make her grand entrance carried onstage by six of the most gorgeous bodies around. They'll be judging costumes (the theme is Decadence to Elegance) in several categories with hundred\$ of dollar\$ in prize\$. Over at the BOOT CAMP, Ken Fitzharris will be

(Continued on next page)

Correction

Guy Chaddock of the Satyrs M/C in Los Angeles is alive and well. He was not stabbed to death in his driveway as reported in last week's *Bay Area Reporter*.

Take sex out of sexual liberation and you have no liberation.

Take Gay out of the Gay Movement and you have no Movement.

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Chris Noll

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The Pussies at Maud's (Photo: Rink)

Marcus

(Continued from previous page)

doing his swan song as the Booty closes its doors forever with a ball-busting party to end the era. The bar at the Galleria will reopen at 6 a.m. and go 'til 9 a.m., as it will at the Gift Center Pavilion. Trocadero Transfer will be ablaze with 1985 ambiance and all around the town, a huge GAY welcome for 1985. With the CHP setting roadblocks up all over town, be wise and take cabs! Straight people don't use cabs after 2 a.m. anyway, so you shouldn't have any problems. I wish you all a merry New Year's Eve. You too, Spunk!

DISMELS IN DISHTRRESS

Burning question in a few minds: Where and when is the Studstore going to open in the Castro? ... If you're still hankering to go to the 1st party by the Golden Showers Association, it's scheduled for Sat., Dec. 29 at a secret location. Call "Puddles" at 861-1048 if you're interested ... Red Bentzinger got tired of toll calls to Oakland and the Bay Bridge tolls, so he's gone even further by hooking up with a dude from Washington, D.C.—are you there? ... If you've been frustrated trying to call Mark "Bubbles" Abramson because his phone is always busy or he's out, you can now rest. Ms. Bubbles now has an an-

swering machine via Santa Claws, but does that guarantee anything? ... The ARENA will be holding Bare Chest Contests TWICE a month for the 1986 Calendar, which will be in COLOR next year, and after the contests more time will be devoted to making a creative piece of art ... Be sure to mark your calendars for the United Cerebral Palsy Telethon in January—many of your drag and leather brothers have volunteered to "man" the phones for your generous contributions ... The Camp Court of Hollywood has raised more money after only ONE MONTH in office than the entire Los Angeles "establishment" court, and their investiture will be at the Hollywood Paladium with Empress Jose and myself doing the crowning ceremonies; needless to say, the "establishment" court is NOT amused ... Black Leather Party at the 1808 CLUB on New Year's Eve; and there's ALWAYS a 50%-off coupon printed in this here paper ...

We are now at a quasi-pissy apartment building on Corwin Street where one queen is having a tree decorating party. All of a sudden, out on the lawn there arose this clatter of sleigh bells and chains and the arrival of perhaps, perhaps ... Santa? When they all looked out the window, it was only the dirty old man upstairs bringing home a rather skinny, bedraggled slave complete with collar and chains—yes, that was on Corwin Street ... Getting ready for the big leather weekend in Washington, D.C. The spokesman for the bike club putting on the whole affair Jan. 17-20 says the Mr. Leather of Washington DC contest will put 'em all to shame. I'll be there to bring you EXCLUSIVE photos and coverage of the whole affair, and so will Mr. Drummer of LAST YEAR, John Garger, to give me an exclusive interview on why he gave up the title, which will prove to be REAL juicy ... Those of you who remember John Krause, formerly of the N-TOUCH and the ARENA, will be glad to know he's pushing the booze at the STUD in Los Angeles these days. And speaking of LAX, Ms. Suzy Parker's old Pontiac finally dropped dead of exhaustion and LaParker is now sporting a fire-engine red Buick Regal (and 36 payments)—what a penny-pincher!

★ ★ ★

Finally made it to Maud's last Wednesday to see the Fabulous PUSSIES, a group of women who had the place in an uproar with their iconoclastic renditions of various Christmas Carols.

Hydie Downard MC'd the affair, and Donna the Polack kept the Men Behind Bars scouts fairly juiced up. Gilbert Baker outdid himself with the nun's outfit, and Jonna the bartendress kept everyone from parched throats. result: The Pussies WILL be in Men Behind Bars this year! Lesbians at last. Are you reading this Rikki?

★ ★ ★

Well sports fans, the Cable

Car Awards nominations are almost ALL in; it's been a good year. I'm doing a new turn this time—instead of my annual Thanks for the Memories column, I'm doing the Best & The Worst of 1984 next week. Time to call a spade a spade. Until then, have a Happy New Year in 1985 and remember: In Florida, you never get divorced during the holidays. In San Francisco, you always get divorced BEFORE the holidays. See you 'round the campus ... ■

Mister Marcus



The bartenders of Castro Station spread yuletide cheer at bar's Christmas party last week (Photo: Rink)



Pat Montclair pours her heart out for a Christmas food drive at the Mint (Photo: Rink)

Karl's Calendar

Friday, Dec. 28: An Evening of Fun Raising with Bruce and Parkay (Mr./Miss Gay SF), The Village, 8 p.m., not a fund raiser, not a benefit, not a promotion, just a good old fashioned party.

Monday, Dec. 31: New Year's Eve Party, Village, 8 p.m.

Gala Celebration, SF-Eagle, 8 p.m., champagne at midnight.

New Year's Eve At The Arena, 7 p.m., drink specials.

Party-Party, Febe's, 9 p.m., drink specials, fun, hats.

New Year's Celebration, Kimo's, 9 p.m., surprises.

So Many Men 1985, Gift Center, 9 p.m. to 9 a.m., I-Beam Family, adv \$25, dr \$35, featuring Evelyn Thomas ("High Energy") and Linda Clifford ("If My Friends Could See Me Now"),

DJs Michael Garrett and Bob Viteritti, producer Sanford Kelman.

New Year's Show, Valencia Rose, 9 p.m., \$10, featuring comedy by Tom Ammiano and music by Debbie Sanders.

The Sky Is the Limit, Galleria Center, 10 p.m. to dawn, adv. \$30, dr \$35. Featuring Bonnie Pointer, DJ Steve Fabus, producer Rida Bandy.

Tuesday, Jan. 1, 85: First Cha Cha in '85, Castro Station, 6 a.m., DJ Leona Music, producer Rita Rocket.

Dynasty Night, 9 p.m.: Men's Room, Moby Dick, Midnight Sun, Village, Elephant Walk, Festus, Castro Station, Cafe Sn Marcos, Febe's (hotdogs), Chaps, SF Eagle (dinner \$4), Ramrod (beer and wine available), Kokpit, Kimo's Renegade, Polk Gulch, Trax.

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the slave gratefully offering the master his undying devotion. An InterVision Production directed by Dave Nesor.

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The Latest Literary Gossip by Way of *The New York Times Book Review*

Home Before Dark

By Susan Cheever. A Biographical Memoir by his daughter of novelist John Cheever, winner of the National Book Award for *The Wapshot Chronicle*.

"He realized that he had been engaged in a series of 'astonishing contests' as he called them, 'one with alcohol and one with his wife.' A third 'contest,' with his homosexuality he had hidden for years. 'I think it was partly his fear of his own desires that kept my father drinking,' Miss Cheever believes, 'and I think his anxiety over his sexual ambivalence also kept him married. He didn't want us to know—and we didn't want to know.'"

Well, there's nothing like having a daughter spill the beans after a man has decided to remain in the closet. And have you ever heard homosexual confusion being called an "amazing contest" before?

Alma Mater

Experiences in the Women's Colleges, by Helen Horowitz.

"The colleges were supposed to offer a protected environment free of the distraction of the opposite sex, but they could not remove the students from the attraction of their own sex. Students developed 'crushes' on deans, and even college presidents often lived with a beloved female friend."

So what have we here? It appears the forerunners to Maud's and Amelia's were Mt. Holyoke, Vassar, Wellesley, Radcliffe, Sarah Lawrence, Bennington, and Smith.

The American Pope

The Life and Times of Francis Cardinal Spellman, by John Cooney.

"In the final version of the

book, Mr. Cooney has wisely abandoned his attempt to argue that Spellman was a homosexual, reducing his mention of the matter to a paragraph. His original discussion of the allegations, based on anonymous sources, occupied a few pages of the galley proofs that were circulated to reviewers before the book was published, and it naturally attracted press attention. 'For years rumors abounded about Cardinal Spellman being a homosexual,' he now writes. 'As a result, many felt that Spellman, the public moralist, may well have been a contradiction of the man of the flesh.' But purient interest in the sex lives of public figures serves no useful purpose. What matters about them is what they did in the public sphere and rarely can it be demonstrated that their sex lives, heterosexual or homosexual, promiscuous or inhibited, affected their policies and actions."

Do you think that your sexual orientation is worth just one paragraph in the story of your life? That's the way it went with Nelly Spellman, Archbishop of New York from 1939 to 1967.

Emily Dickinson

By Vivian R. Pollak.

"And by treating Dickinson as a failed female, the book does not fully acknowledge . . . the ways in which Dickinson dares to face, modulate by gender and leave unresolved an astonishing range of issues that might arise in any quest for sexual identity: ambition, autonomy, marriage, androgyny, homosexuality, piety, range, anorexia, power, submissiveness, desire, despair, death and immortality."

If that's what the straight goes through for sexual identity, then a lot of confirmed Gays must be sexually retarded. ■

BOOK RACK

Re-Exploring Davey Bryant

Fury
by David Watmough
Oberon, \$11.95

by Marvin Shaw

New aspects of Watmough's Davey Bryant emerge in this most recent collection of episodes in the life of the Gay Cornish Canadian. He is becoming more familiar to us as the transplanted British author reveals more of what has made his protagonist the man he is.

There is less of the devious, picaresque, charming but slippery Davey here than appeared in *Love and the Waiting Game*, *No More into the Garden*, and *The Connecticut Countess*. There is much more of the country boy who adores animals, struggles to understand and love his parents—and reaches out to form loving friendships—often with males from alien cultures.

So the title story deals with a tamed ferret who reverts quite naturally to its instincts among the farm animals and forces Davey to make some terrible choices about both the animal and the course of his own life. "One and All" plunged Davey into turmoil involving his new Jewish friend, his relatives'

bigotry, the senseless violence of British fascists, and his own prejudices.

But the book plunges forward in time too, from the first years of WWII and Davey's early adolescence, to the British Columbian scene, in which the middle aged Davey, now outright Gay and an established writer and CBC personality, still explores his own evolving psyche among old friends and chance encounters. Thus, in "Dark Murmurs from Burns Lake" he is both fascinated and repelled by the drunken violence he finds in a wilderness community where people are driven to brutality by alcohol and boredom.

Watmough's juxtaposition of "chapters" lets us see the relationships between the gradually revealed facets of a complex but typical Gay man of our time. Singly, each is beautifully crafted, but taken together, they form a portrait that reflects ourselves and, in the background, our times. ■

Happy New Year

I hope you all had a very nice Christmas holiday and enjoyed it with friends or relatives. Ben Schlyper and Danny Montoya did a very thoughtful thing in the building they manage on O'Farrell Street. They had a Christmas dinner last Saturday for all of the senior citizens and their other tenants, of which there are more than 90. The elderly were so pleased they gave them a big round of applause, and the food that was left they fixed for them to take back to their own apartments . . . a nice thought, guys.

Seems as if the Special on Castro Street is now opening very late on Saturday mornings. Just what are your new hours, Bill Wright? I do hope Mother is feeling better. Seems as if Ethyl (Kimo's) is on safari hunting with Ricky Sue, again.

Kitty's Korner at 741 O'Farrell is having a New Year's Eve bash with free champagne from midnight to 1 a.m., so why not join them in celebrating?

Starting on Saturday and thru Tuesday nights at the Gate at Pine and Jones will be Bobby Isbell on the plank . . . he stars on the 5th . . . he formerly worked at the Yacht Club, so

drop in and have a drink with this personable guy . . . sorry to see you leave, David Burton, but I think your new job will be great, and it's thoughtful of you to do the work at the Shanti Project.

Big Bird of Ginger's was very generous with me this year . . . a beautiful box of Godiva chocolates, but unfortunately it was the sample box you get free . . . but the thought was there, Big Bird.

Vera of Rick's Gold Room on Geary Street gave her good friend Dick Rubin of Polo's boxing gloves for Christmas . . . I

don't know what that signifies, Vera . . . incidentally, Dick the Osso Bueco was delicious last Wednesday, as was your company.

I would like to wish everyone a very happy and prosperous New Year, and be good to your fellow man and don't forget that the Annual Cable Car Awards will soon be upon us, so get your tickets early.

Scoop—this is the first time that Totie did not give Albert the TWO Black Eyes—it was the cabinet over the dishwasher. ■

After Dark Continues

The nightclub revue, After Dark, which is in San Francisco at the Alcazar Theatre after eight years in Europe, will extend its run through Feb. 2, it was announced today by the show's star, Christer Lindarw. The 1985 schedule finds an additional "uncensored version" Fridays at 11 p.m. The other performances (Tuesdays through Fridays at 8:30, Saturdays at 8:30 and 11) and prices

(\$15.50 Tuesdays through Thursdays, \$17.50 Fridays and Saturdays) remain the same.

1984 closes with two special New Year's Eve performances at 8 and 10:30 p.m., and the addition of local talent Matthew Martin, who replaces the departing Lars Sturesson. Martin last appeared in the San Francisco run of Sugar Babies, and was also seen in The Finest Hour at the Alcazar Theatre. ■

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